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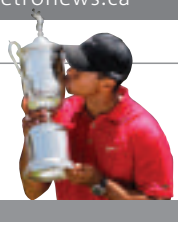

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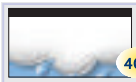


New reactors for Darlington

Durham politicians welcome expansion of nuclear plant

Power-hungry Ontario wants new sources of electricity near Toronto. Hard-hit Durham Region wants jobs. Those factors won out over environmental fears and huge costs yesterday as the province announced the Darlington nuclear plant will be expanded to accommodate two giant reactors.

Canada's first new reactors in two decades are expected to generate up to 3,200 megawatts of power — enough to power all homes and businesses in Toronto.

Energy Minister Gerry Phillips said construction should begin at the existing station in 2012 with electricity being generated by mid-2018.

Phillips declined to give a price tag for the Darlington project other than to say it would fit within the province's $26.3-billion plan to upgrade its nuclear capacity over the next 20 years.

money matters

» **$2.5B:** Projected cost of Darlington nuclear power plant in 1974.
» **$14.4B:** Actual cost of Darlington by 1993, when all four reactors were up and running.

Phillips said Darlington was selected because its transmission capacity is more accessible than the privately operated Bruce site on Lake Huron.

The news was greeted with glee by politicians in Durham Region, which has suffered thousands of job cuts at General Motors in Oshawa and its parts suppliers.

"In a long run, it's a big win for us," said Roger Anderson, chair of Durham Region. "There's about 3,500 jobs involved during the construction period."

But environmentalist Dan McDermott of the Sierra Club voiced concern about the long-term disposal of nuclear waste. "Nuclear power is the most expensive and dangerous means of generating electricity ever created," he said.

New Democrat MPP Peter Tabuns said the province should be weaning itself off expensive nuclear power, and he warned the total bill could double to more than $50 billion.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Piper on geese poop patrol

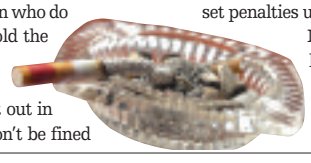
Piper herds a group of geese and a swan into Lake Ontario. Piper, along with other border collies Roy, Dixie and Will, regularly traverse 161 kilometres of waterfront, from the Pickering border to the edge of Mississauga, on poop patrol, scaring geese away in the interests of preserving water quality.

Ontario butts out smoking in vehicles with kids

Ontario became the latest Canadian province to ban smoking in a vehicle with a child present yesterday after a government-backed private member's bill passed in the legislature with the support of all three parties.

Smoking in Ontario workplaces and public areas, such as bars and restaurants, is already illegal in Ontario, but the new ban will provide an additional level of protection to children under the age of 16 , said Health Promotion Minister Margarett Best.

"This is about protection of our most vulnerable citizens — children who do not have a voice," Best told the legislature.



Drivers and passengers in Ontario who don't butt out in cars carrying children won't be fined more than $250 for each offence, a much lighter fine than originally envisioned by Liberal backbencher David Orazietti's bill, which set penalties up to $1,000.

Nova Scotia and British Columbia have already outlawed the practice, which critics liken to child abuse.

Health-care groups who lobbied hard for a ban praised the province for taking the right steps to protect children's health.

"Doctors have been calling for a ban since 2004 and raising awareness about the serious impacts on children of second-hand smoke in cars," Ontario Medical Association president Dr. Ken Arnold said in a statement.

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toronto

A $1-million universal breakfast program will begin this September at three high schools and four middle schools in the Jane and Finch area to ensure every student has a full stomach and is ready to learn. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Murder probe progressing

Two men gunned down Friday night

There may not be a motive or a murderer, but the investigation is inching forward, and with each passing hour, witness interview and scans of video from surveillance cameras, detectives feel they are closer to solving the shocking case.

It's been four days since an unidentified gunman opened fire on Dylan Ellis and Oliver Martin, both 25, killing each young man with a bullet to the chest in a seemingly unprovoked attack on Richmond Street West, near Trinity Bellwoods Park.

But, slowly, methodically, detectives are moving it forward.

"We have been speculating and ruling certain things out," homicide Det. Stacy Gallant said. "And that leaves other avenues open."

Tight-lipped about what those avenues may be, Gallant said a solid understanding of the crime's mechanics is guiding the search for answers. They are also examining hours of video surveillance collected from cameras positioned all over the block where Ellis and Martin were gunned down.

Tinted windows in the back seat saved Martin's girlfriend from injury, police said, but not from psychological trauma.

The young woman, said to fear for her life, is staying at her parents' home. Police would not confirm or deny whether they are keeping watch over this key witness.

"She's not in any danger, in my opinion," said Det. Sgt. Gary Giroux.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

suspect seen fleeing

» The only suspect police have so far is a light-skinned black man seen riding away from the scene on a mountain bike. Witnesses reported seeing him travelling south from Richmond Street West.

Youths told camp was a retreat

The youths attended a terrorist training camp, but they were kept on the "down low" and told it was a religious retreat.

They participated in firearms training with a 9mm handgun, but it "freaked them out."

They were told to "play along" in the making of a video, but thought it was to chronicle their trip.

And they listened to a speech exhorting the fall of Rome, but appeared more perplexed than pumped.

That was some of the testimony that surfaced yesterday when police mole Mubin Shaikh, the Crown's star witness in the case of the so-called Toronto 18, was cross-examined for the first time in open court.

"They were sheep ... nonentities," he told the Brampton court.

The four youths, along with 14 adults, were arrested throughout the GTA in the summer of 2006 for belonging to a terror cell.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Boy in coma after hit-and-run

Police arrest man, cite alcohol and speed as factors

A four-year-old boy is clinging to life in hospital after being run down on a Mississauga street by a car whose driver fled the scene.

Peel police later arrested a man on four charges, including impaired driving and leaving the scene after the Sunday night accident on Roche Court, a cul-de-sac near Erin Mills Parkway and the Queen Elizabeth Way. Officers say alcohol and high speed were factors in the crash.

Little Yahya Syed was walking with his aunt, Nuzhat Abdulghani, about 8:45 p.m. when he darted from her grasp on the sidewalk, onto the dead-end street and into the path of a black Nissan Maxima.

The youngster was dragged more than 35 metres before the car came to a stop.

"We were just having a little walk around the building because it was nice weather," Abdulghani told the Toronto Star. She said she was waiting for her sister Haleem — Yahya's mother — to come to pick him up.

Yahya is being treated at the Hospital for Sick Children, where doctors put the boy into a drug-induced coma as they try to treat the severe head injuries he suffered.

Elliot Khelawan, 52, was released from custody in Brampton court yesterday and ordered to appear again on June 27.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

JIM WILKES/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Nuzhat Abdulghani comforts her two-year-old nephew Isa Syed. She was walking with Isa's brother, Yahya Syed, 4, on Sunday when Yahya darted into a Mississauga street and was struck by a car whose driver fled the scene.

crime

Youth shot at pizza shop ID'd

VICTIM Claudio Andres Alamos was a "confused boy" who craved independence and drifted from shelter to shelter, though his parents wanted so badly to give him a stable, safe home, his father said yesterday.

Alamos, 19, the city's latest shooting victim — and the third to die over a weekend that left at least eight injured — died after he was gunned down early Sunday outside a Jane Street pizza shop. "He didn't want to live with me, I don't know why," David Alamos said. "When he turned 16 years old, suddenly he wanted to live by himself." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

»news In Brief

» **KHADR** As Omar Khadr's war crimes trial pushes forward this week, his lawyers are working behind the scenes to establish a rehabilitative program that would ease the Toronto detainee back to freedom. The proposed plan includes psychiatric treatment at Toronto's Centre for Addiction and Mental Heath and religious counselling by a local imam.

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Eye on TTC safety

IN TRANSIT
ED DRASS
transit@eddrass.com

Recently, Joan Dunn of Toronto wrote that while boarding a subway at Eglinton West station, she got partly into the car when the train doors closed. "I fell backwards onto the platform, with my toes stuck in the door and my heel caught in the space between the car and the platform. The door opened, I got my foot out. The door closed and the train pulled out — leaving me flat on my back on the platform.

"People helped me — I sat on one of the seats and everyone left. After about five minutes, I took the escalator up to the entrance booth and told my story to the man taking the fares. He asked if I needed an ambulance — which I did not — and then he seemed to lose interest. Of course, people are flooding in to pay their fare.

"So after about 15 minutes, when I had kind of regained my composure, I gave him my name and telephone numbers and came to the office."

TTC spokesperson Brad Ross says, "There is a report ... of an incident like this happening. The collector at the station asked for her name, and (she) wouldn't give it and then left. That's all we know."

Dunn confirmed with me by e-mail and by phone that she did indeed leave the pertinent information, and I believe her.

What exactly is proper procedure?

Ross replies, "If the guard saw her falling on the platform, he would have stopped the train and offered assistance, and the proper report ... would have been filed."

What if someone feels safety protocols have not been followed?

The TTC spokesperson replies, "If the train didn't stop and kept going, you go up to the collector booth. The collector would call Transit Control. They would call a supervisor who would attend the scene and take down all of your information and file a report."

Ross adds, "We also have a customer service department that receives complaints daily and all of those are recorded and followed up on. So we have a fairly rigid protocol for incidents that occur on the system, both to protect the customer and ourselves."

As for me, I continuously hear from readers who have little faith in the TTC complaint process because they never receive the substantive response they expect.

More troubling is that if events occurred as Dunn reports, this raises further concerns about the TTC's safety procedures — an overall issue the commission is to consider at its monthly meeting this week.

It's natural for even the most scrupulous of policies to gradually erode, especially in a large organization.

The trick is to notice and address this phenomenon before it's too late — and someone is injured or killed.

Ed Drass has a degree in urban studies from York University and regularly rides transit in the GTA and elsewhere.

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Georgetown
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Heartland Town Centre
Square One
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Woodchester Plaza
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1A - 1370 Dundas St. E
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canada

More than 100 extreme athletes from around the world began unicycling across Nova Scotia yesterday in a unique race called Ride The Lobster. The 800-kilometre race started in Yarmouth and will wind its way through 135 communities before ending Friday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mob heckles mom

Nova Scotia woman accused of killing daughter

By **ROBYN YOUNG**
Metro Halifax

Dozens of angry Bridgewater, N.S., residents crowded outside the town's courthouse yesterday shouting accusations and expletives as police escorted Penny Boudreau into a waiting cruiser.

"Murderer! Killer!" echoed through the community's streets.

"You deserve what you did to your daughter," one woman yelled while Boudreau covered her face and hurried from the courthouse to the car.

About 100 people packed the Bridgewater provincial courtroom as the 33-year-old made her first appearance on charges of first-degree murder in the death of her daughter Karissa Boudreau.

Judge Anne Crawford addressed Boudreau, saying she will be remanded to a correctional centre until June 24 when she will return to court to face the charge.

People born gay, new study shows

A new Swedish study showing important similarities between the brains of homosexual men and straight women provides important new proof that people are born gay, a top Canadian researcher says.

The neural imaging study, which also showed key similarities between the brains of lesbians and heterosexual men, might further help gays to make a political and sociological case for such things as equal marriage rights and greater legal and religious tolerance, experts say.

"There are now about three or four studies on gays that point to a different organization in the brain," says McMaster University neuroscientist Sandra Witelson. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Alberta **Oil spill**

RANDY FIEDLER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

An airboat returns to shore yesterday after a boom was deployed to capture oil on Glennifer Lake, Alta. A pipeline leak near Sundre, Alta., sent between 75 and 125 barrels of oil into the Red Deer River, which flows into Glennifer Lake.

»news In Brief

» **OILSANDS** Alberta should not approve more oilsands upgraders near Edmonton until the province has a solid plan to limit the huge volume of fresh water they will use and to better manage the pollution they will produce, a new study says. THE CANADIAN PRESS

committee

Couillard says she won't testify

SCANDAL Julie Couillard, the woman at the centre of the scandal that cost Maxime Bernier his job as foreign affairs minister, is refusing to voluntarily testify before a parliamentary committee. And that has opposition MPs on the Commons public safety and national security committee threatening to subpoena her.

In a letter yesterday to the committee clerk, Couillard's lawyer said it would be unfair to force her to testify as long as Bernier is refusing to appear and explain his role in the affair. Bernier resigned from cabinet last month after admitting he forgot classified documents at Couillard's home. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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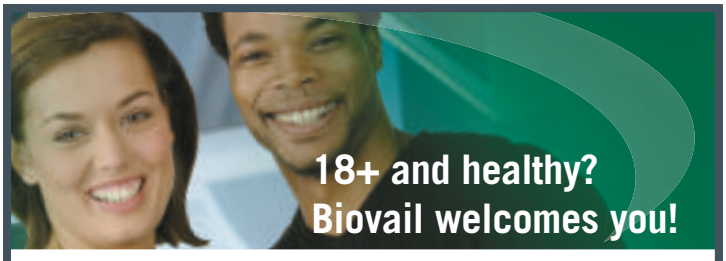

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Group added to terror list

Tamil movement's finances frozen

The government of Canada has added the controversial World Tamil Movement to its list of terrorist organizations, the latest move in an ongoing investigation that links the group to Sri Lanka's Tamil Tigers.

The group's assets have been frozen and could be seized by the attorney general, said Public Safety Minister Stockwell Day, who announced the decision in Toronto yesterday.

"We want to make sure any group who would help terrorist organizations is prevented from doing that," said Day.

In 2006, the RCMP raided the group's office in Scarborough and seized documents that included step-by-step instructions on how to set up a front organization and indoctrinate children.

eyeing appeal

» Sitha Sittampalam, the movement's Toronto president since 2004, said he is consulting a lawyer about how to proceed with an appeal of the decision.

The RCMP accuses the World Tamil Movement of orchestrating a complex extortion scheme that targets Tamil Canadians and pressures them to donate money to the LTTE, a militant separatist group that has been fighting for an independent homeland in north and east Sri Lanka since the 1970s.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Public Security Minister Stockwell Day listens to a question yesterday in Toronto after announcing the World Tamil Movement has been added to the federal terrorism list.

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Pesticide poisonings likely under-reported

Public database giving 'limited' picture: Expert

A government-run public database of pesticide-related incidents likely under-represents the number of people who get sick or die after using chemicals to help get rid of bugs or weeds.

The Pest Management Regulatory Agency has been requiring pesticide manufacturers to report any information they receive about health and environmental effects of their products to Health Canada since new federal legislation came into effect on April 26, 2007.

As of yesterday, the online database described 264 incidents involving humans with the nature of severity of symptoms varying widely from red spots on baby girls to four reported deaths.

But numbers collected elsewhere suggest the database does not even give the full picture of suspected incidents.

doctors' opinion

» Gideon Forman, executive director of the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment, said the numbers do not add up because it is left mostly up to the public to report the incidents.

Last year, the David Suzuki Foundation issued a report estimating that just more than 6,000 Canadians suffer from acute pesticide poisoning every year and said Canada lacks a national system for reporting pesticide-related incidents.

Report author David Boyd said in a recent interview that the numbers do not add up. "It's a very limited picture," Boyd said of the database.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Biotech lab receives $1M

Patients with stubborn diseases have been known to joke they'd give their right arm for a cure or some relief.

In a few years, just a few skin cells could do the trick, thanks in part to a Toronto lab.

With that in mind, the Ontario government will announce today at an international biotech convention that it is providing $1 million in seed money to back one of last year's most exciting medical breakthroughs.

It's a groundbreaking method of turning simple skin cells into stem cells, bypassing ethical and moral concerns about using stem cells from embryos for use in regenerative medicine.

A lab run by the Hospital for Sick Children and the University of Toronto in the MaRS (Medical and Related Sciences) complex on College Street has developed the expertise to grow the cells in quantity.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

»news In Brief

» **CRIME** A Belgian man has been charged with six sex-related counts involving a 13-year-old Montreal girl.

Vincent Raphael Duval was formally arraigned in a brief court appearance in Montreal yesterday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

world

Al Gore, left, is endorsing Barack Obama. In a letter to be e-mailed to Obama supporters, Gore wrote, "From now through election day, I intend to do whatever I can to make sure he is elected president of the United States." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Taliban take over villages

Kandahar city may be next target for rebels

FARZANA WAHIDY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An Afghan deminer from Afghan Technical Consultants (ATC) clears a landmine area yesterday in Bakhshikhail village, north of Kabul. Bakhshikhail village was laced with mines during the Taliban and mujahedeen conflicts and is now undergoing a clearing operation by the ATC.

Taliban fighters stormed onto the doorstep of Afghanistan's second-largest city yesterday, claiming control of villages, bombing small bridges, and scattering landmines to keep Canadian and international troops at bay.

The head of the Kandahar provincial council and brother of President Hamid Karzai said the rebels had seized a handful of villages and were rumoured to be seeking a bigger target: Kandahar city.

Canadian soldiers are playing a major role in the multinational push to keep the Taliban from advancing and are accompanied by the Afghan army and U.S. special forces, said Ahmed Wali Karzai.

But their path was blocked by bombed-out culverts and landmines planted by the rebels, he added.

Karzai said the Taliban had nabbed control of several villages in the lush Arghandab river valley — just next door to Kandahar city, the birthplace of the Taliban.

"They have taken over there," Karzai told The Canadian Press in a telephone interview yesterday.

"There are also strong rumours that they will attack Kandahar city at strategic points — my house, the government's house, the police station."

For now they have set up position in small villages across the Arghandab River just west of the city, which is home to the international base where most of Canada's 2,500 troops are stationed.

Karzai said police had been sent in from the capital to help local forces protect the volatile region: "Everyone in Kabul is very much concerned."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. top court eases rules for foreigners

New guidelines for staying longer

The U.S. Supreme Court has made it easier for some foreigners who overstay their visas to seek to legally remain in the United States.

The court ruled 5-4 yesterday that someone who is in the United States illegally may withdraw their voluntarily agreement to depart and continue to try to get approval to remain in the country. The decision essentially embraced a proposed Justice Department regulation governing the treatment of similar cases in the future.

Samson Dada, a Nigerian citizen, stayed beyond the expiration of his tourist visa in 1998. He married an American the following year and soon began trying to obtain a visa as an immediate relative of a citizen. Immigration authorities recently ruled Dada had entered a "sham" marriage in order to stay in the U.S. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

fashion

Iran closes several clothes shops

CRACKDOWN Iranian police are reportedly in the midst of a crackdown to enforce rules on Islamic dress.

Reports in the Iranian media say 32 clothes shops and hairdressers have been closed in several Tehran neighbourhoods.

Police have also stopped cars and pedestrians in the street in an intensified crackdown on women who do not abide by Iran's strict Islamic dress code.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

White House e-mails protected

Judge rules office doesn't have to make info public

backup tapes

» The White House has acknowledged problems with its e-mail system, while saying if any e-mail is missing, it can be found on disaster recovery backup tapes.

A U.S. federal judge says the White House office that has records on millions of possibly missing e-mails does not have to make the information public.

The ruling by U.S. District Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly says the Office of Administration is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act.

As a result, the White House will not be forced to lift its veil of secrecy on an internal paper trail about its problem-plagued e-mail system.

The decision came in a lawsuit filed against the administration by Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, the private group that has been trying to find out the extent of the White House's e-mail problems for more than a year.

Kollar-Kotelly, in ruling in favour of the White House, said the functions of the Office of Administration "are strictly administrative."

Kollar-Kotelly said the Office of Administration has no authority over others in the executive branch and the office is exclusively dedicated to providing services to the Executive Office of the President.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

defence

France to slash 54,000 jobs

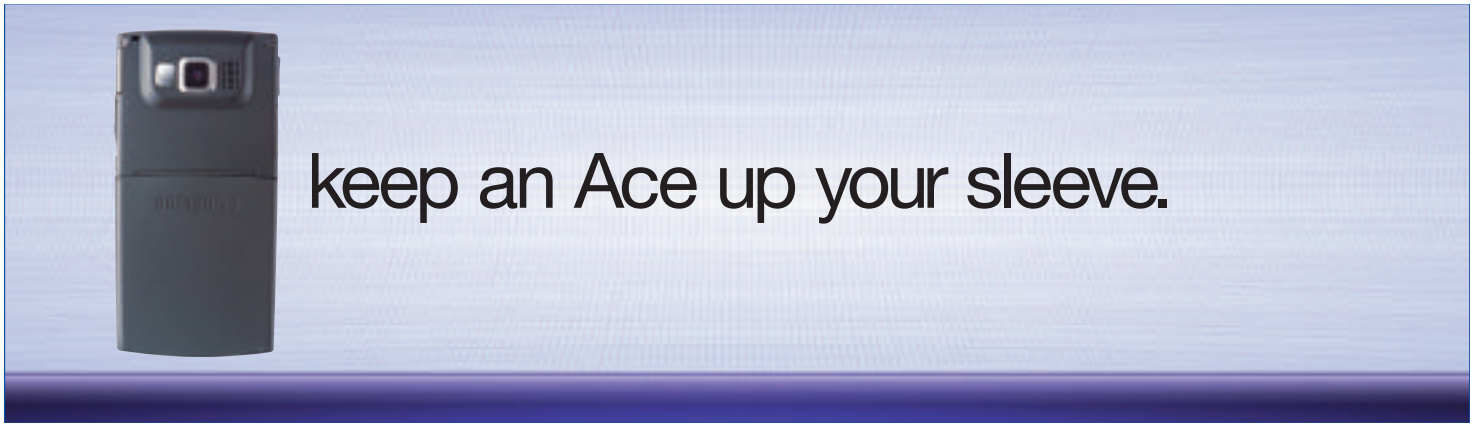
STRATEGY France will slash 54,000 defence jobs and push for a stronger European defence policy, according to a new strategy aimed at adapting French forces to evolving threats — from terrorists at home to insurgents in Afghanistan and beyond.

President Nicolas Sarkozy will present the plan — the biggest review of France's defence posture in 14 years — to military and security officials today.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

»news
In Brief

» **IRAN** A British official says European Union countries have agreed in principle to freeze the assets of Iran's largest bank. Prime Minister Gordon Brown's spokesman, Michael Ellam, said yesterday an agreement is in place over the assets of Bank Melli. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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business

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Rogers to reduce wireless prices

New mobile rates to coincide with iPhone launch

Palm model going on sale

» Rogers said yesterday it also will sell Palm's Centro model, which is equipped with a full keyboard, but has been priced below $100 by U.S. carriers.

Wireless prices are set to fall at the country's biggest carrier just in time for the Canadian launch of the data-hungry iPhone, but don't expect to see the same "unlimited" deals offered in the United States.

Nadir Mohamed, the chief of operating officer of Rogers Communications Inc., said yesterday that wireless rates will "evolve" as subscribers begin using their mobile phones for more than just talking — a trend that's expected to gain traction once Apple Inc.'s iPhone is made available to Canadians through Rogers on July 11.

Mohamed said Rogers will unveil new pricing models in the coming weeks that are intended to "drive adoption" of such devices.

"Web browsing is real," Mohamed said. "It's happening on mobile broadband and our pricing will change to reflect that."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Auto sales slump continues

Statistics Canada says sales of new motor vehicles fell for a third straight month in April, mainly due to lower sales in the western provinces.

The agency says 143,300 new vehicles were sold in April, down 2.6 per cent from March. It says preliminary data suggest sales will be relatively unchanged in May.

The report says sales of passenger cars fell 5.0 per cent to 75,020 in April, while sales of trucks, including minivans and SUVs, edged up 0.2 per cent to 68,280.

Sales were down in seven provinces in April, with big declines in Nova Scotia and the four western provinces.

Sales were off 8.7 per cent in Alberta, where dealers sold the fewest new vehicles since December 2005.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

picket lines

GM blockade cleared: CAW

COURT An almost two-week long blockade at the GM Canada plant in Oshawa had been dismantled early yesterday. Keith Osborne, chairman of the CAW Local 222, said pickets left the scene by 7 a.m. as ordered under a court injunction issued late last week.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

»news In Brief

» **HYBRID** Toyota is struggling to keep up with booming demand for its hybrid vehicles because it can't make enough of the batteries that are key parts in the hit cars, a senior executive said yesterday.

» **SALARIES** As the American economy slowed to a crawl, CEO pay still chugged to yet more dizzying heights last year, an Associated Press analysis shows. The AP review of compensation for the heads of companies in the Standard & Poor's 500 index finds the median pay package added up to nearly $8.4 million.

» **CAR** Honda's new zero-emission, hydrogen fuel cell car, the FCX Clarity, rolled off a Japanese production line yesterday and is headed to southern California.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Airfares

CANCUN $145
Travel Jun 20-Jun 27/am + $327 taxes & fees

Fort Lauderdale $99
Travel Jun 21-Jun 28/ts + $236 taxes & fees

Vancouver $378
Travel Jun 17-Jun 24/ws + $208 taxes & fees

Prague $698
Travel Sep 10-Sep 17/af + $411 taxes & fees

Rio de Janeiro $818
Travel Sep 10-Sep 24/aa + $222 taxes & fees

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Croatia $840
Croatia Highlights + 250 EUR local payment
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Munich $1075
Park Inn Munich East + $371 taxes & fees
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All-Inclusive Holidays

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Bahia Principe San Juan + $369 taxes & fees
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, hotel transfers and 7 nights 4-star all-inclusive accommodation. Departs Jun 20/sqv/5g.

Panama $597
Royal Decameron Beach Resort + $251 taxes & fees
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, hotel transfers and 7 nights 4-star all-inclusive accommodation. Departs Jun 22/nol/ws. **UPGRADE** to an oceanview suite for $8 per night.

Jamaica $667
Holiday Inn Sunspree + $316 taxes & fees
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, hotel transfers and 7 nights 4-star all-inclusive accommodation. Departs Jun 21/sqv/5g. **UPGRADE** to the 5-star Grand Bahia Principe for $32 per night.

Cruise Holidays

Eastern Caribbean $429
Carnival Cruise Lines + $110 taxes & fees
INCLUDES 7 nights aboard *Carnival Valor*. Sails roundtrip from Miami. Visits Nassau, St Thomas and St Maarten. Sails Nov 16. **UPGRADE** to an oceanview stateroom from only $15 per night.

Mediterranean $1139
Celebrity Cruises + $201 taxes & fees
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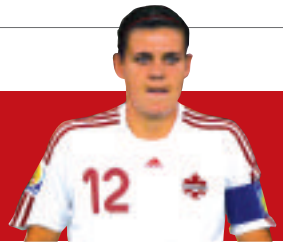
sports



Christine Sinclair, left, scored twice to lead Canada to a 3-1 victory over Korea Republic yesterday at the Peace Queen Cup. Canada can advance to the final with either a win or a draw against New Zealand tomorrow. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Limping Tiger battles to 3rd U.S. Open title

Woods hits clutch putt to slip past Mediate

Tiger Woods cradled the silver U.S. Open trophy in his right hand and limped toward the edge of the Pacific bluffs, each step as much a burden as the 91 holes he played at Torrey Pines for a major that might have been his most amazing yet.

Out of competition for two months because of knee surgery, he won the toughest test in golf.

For the second straight day, Woods came to the 18th hole one shot behind and stood over a birdie putt to avoid a shocking collapse.

His knee throbbing and heart pounding, he delivered. He always does.

An epic U.S. Open finally ended yesterday afternoon on the 19th hole of a playoff when Woods outlasted a gritty Rocco Mediate for a victory that surprised even him.

major winners

» Golfers who have won the most career major tournaments:
18 – Jack Nicklaus
14 – Tiger Woods
11 – Walter Hagan
9 – Ben Hogan
9 – Gary Player

"I think this is probably the best ever," Woods said. "All things considered, I don't know how I ended up in this position, to be honest with you. It was a long week. A lot of doubt, a lot of questions going into the week. And here we are, 91 holes later."

Now the greater question is his future.

All week, Woods had managed to mask the pain, walking with an almost imperceptible limp. Finally, he could give in to it. Walking toward the bluffs for his last round of interviews, he could barely make it up the hill.

Woods conceded that he risked further damage by playing the U.S. Open, and said it was possible that he had indeed made it worse.

He does not know when he will play next, even uncertain whether he will show up at Royal Birkdale in five weeks for the British Open to continue his pursuit of Jack Nicklaus' record 18 majors. Torrey Pines was Woods' 14th major and made him the only player besides Nicklaus to win the career Grand Slam three times over.

"I think I need to shut it down for a little bit," Woods said. "It's a bit sore. I need to take a little bit of a break."

For his part, Mediate wasn't about to beat himself up about a loss to the world's top player.

"Obviously, I would have loved to win," he said. "I don't know what else to say. They wanted a show, they got one." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHRIS CARLSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tiger Woods kisses his U.S. Open championship trophy after winning a sudden-death hole against Rocco Mediate following an 18-hole playoff round yesterday at Torrey Pines Golf Course in San Diego.

MICHAEL PROBST/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Germany's Michael Ballack, foreground, is congratulated by teammate Arne Friedrich after scoring his team's opening goal against Austria yesterday in Vienna.

Germany slips into quarter-finals

Croatia wins to set date with Turkey

EURO2008

Germany got the win it needed, and a German-born player got the start he craved yesterday at the European Championship.

The three-time champion Germans beat co-host Austria 1-0 in Vienna to ensure they will play in the quarter-finals, getting a 49th-minute goal from Michael Ballack. Germany will next face Portugal on Thursday in Basel, Switzerland.

Ivan Klasnic, who plays for Croatia but was born in Germany, started for his team and scored the lone goal in its 1-0 win over Poland in Klagenfurt.

Klasnic is the first player ever to take part at the European Championship after a kidney transplant, and his goal kept the team's record intact with three straight wins ahead of Friday's quarter-final match against Turkey in Vienna.

"I'm happy that I'm here at all," Klasnic said. "As I said once, this is like a bonus from God. It's like a dream. I thank God that I'm alive and that a can play football."

World Cup finalists Italy and France play in Group C action today, with both trying to join the Netherlands in the next round. The Dutch team faces Romania, which will advance with a victory.

Spain has also reached the semifinals, and either Russia or Sweden will also advance from Group D tomorrow.

Ballack scored with a fast-moving free kick from 25 yards, sending his shot into the top corner and out of the reach of goalkeeper Juergen Macho.

"Sensational," Austria coach Josef Hickersberger said of Ballack's goal. "World class." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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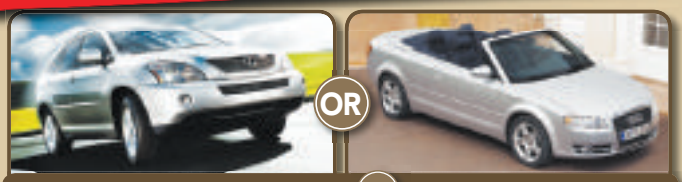

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Sens, Flames could pull trigger on deals

YORK REPORT
MARTY YORK
marty.york@metronews.ca

At least two Canadian-based clubs could complete key trades before or during the NHL draft in Ottawa this weekend.

The Senators are offering **Ray Emery** and the St. Louis Blues, for one, are willing to take the goaltender, his $3-million US salary and his tarnished reputation.

The Calgary Flames, meanwhile, are chatting with Florida about the Panthers' captain, **Olli Jokinen**, who has been embroiled in a cold war with general manager **Jacques Martin**. Jokinen, 30, is multi-talented but Martin privately questions his desire.

Jokinen has two years and $10.75 million remaining on a contract he signed in 2006, when Flames coach **Mike Keenan** was the Panthers' GM.

» That U.S. Open playoff yesterday was a treat for those of us whose jobs allowed us the freedom to watch **Tiger Woods** and **Rocco Mediate** compete.

It's absurd, though, to settle a major golf championship on a Monday afternoon, when most fans are at work. Imagine if a Stanley Cup game were tied after regulation and the NHL elected to start the overtime the next afternoon. Idiotic, eh?

Golf needs to smarten up.

» So the manager of my financial institution is female, and I mention this because here is her explanation of why Euro Cup games are being showcased on a TV in her bank: "The players' faces are visible — and they're gorgeous. They don't wear helmets, like in hockey, baseball or football. It seems like every guy in soccer is good looking. Even the referees."

» Only in the CFL: Quarterback **Chris Leak**, who led the Florida Gators to a national championship in the NCAA in 2006, bolted the other day from the Hamilton Tiger-Cats, who claimed he was jumping to the Arena Football League. Now, Leak has joined the Montreal Alouettes. And the consensus is that he has all the prerequisites needed to become a CFL superstar ... Then there was receiver **Charles Rogers**, a former No. 1 draft choice in the NFL. He told the Als he'd join them in camp. Verbally agreed to a deal. Never showed. Now set to join the Minnesota Vikings ... From former linebacker **A.J. Gass**, on the transition to assistant coach for the Edmonton Eskimos: "Really uncomfortable. I was on the outside looking in (during the Esks' first exhibition game last week). I didn't know what I was doing or how to prepare myself." ... And the Toronto Argonauts are leaning toward starting the regular season with **Michael Bishop** at QB instead of league MVP **Kerry Joseph**. Believe it.

» And regarding the Blue Jays' **A.J. Burnett**: Who cares?

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

»sports In Brief

» **TENNIS** Toronto's Daniel Nestor and Serb Nenad Zimonjic won their second title of the season a week after a painful Grand Slam finals loss in Paris, defeating Brazilians Marcelo Melo and Andre Sa 6-4, 7-6 (7-3) on Sunday at the Queen's club event in London, England.

» **ATHLETICS** Jeff Adams is back on track. The wheelchair racer from Toronto captured gold in his first race after a two-year hiatus, winning the 1,500 metres at the U.S. national championships. The Court of Arbitration for Sport recently exonerated Adams of allegations of doping.

» **MOTORSPORTS** Fernando Alonso is not sure if he will stay with Renault after this season. The two-time world champion, who has had a disappointing year since returning to the French team, said yesterday he'll make a decision after the Formula One season ends.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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TICO

Celtics hope home key to sealing title

Boston has pair of chances to claim NBA championship

STEPHEN DUNN/GETTY IMAGES

Paul Pierce, left, and his Celtics teammates will be in tough against Kobe Bryant and the Los Angeles Lakers in tonight's Game 6 of the NBA Finals in Boston.

The Boston Celtics are home, not home free.

Unable to put the finishing touches on the Los Angeles Lakers and wrap up their first championship since 1986, the NBA's best team since November flew back across three time zones yesterday for a Game 6 tonight they were hoping they wouldn't have to play.

But injuries, another big first-half deficit and a sub-par performance by centre Kevin Garnett cost the banged-up Celtics, who lost 103-98 on Sunday night in Game 5 at Los Angeles and left Staples Center kicking themselves at the missed opportunity.

"Not what we wanted," coach Doc Rivers said of the team's stay in Southern California. "We wanted two more (wins).

"Obviously, the blanket was that we get to go home, but we really believed that we could win one of these games. We won one and we'll take it, but that's obviously not what we want."

The Larry O'Brien Trophy, given each year to the league's top team, was nearly Boston's. At one point, it appeared to be on its way to the floor for an awards ceremony now on hold. Instead of being hoisted by the Celtics, it was hauled off to LAX and loaded into a jet's cargo hold for the six-hour flight to New England.

Despite the loss, the tradition-drenched Celtics feel good about their chances of winning a 17th title — on the 17th.

"We're one up, with two games to go at home," said Paul Pierce, who scored 38 points in Game 5. "It still feels like we have the advantage, and I do feel like we're the better team." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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M-F 10am-6pm

Leafs add Burke's adviser to mix

Toronto hires Coates as player-personnel chief

The Maple Leafs have forged yet another connection to Brian Burke, hiring another one of his underlings from the Anaheim Ducks.

A week after signing former Ducks coach and Burke pal Ron Wilson to run the bench in Toronto, the Leafs yesterday added Al Coates as their director of player personnel.

Not only did Coates, a longtime hockey man, last work as a senior advisor to Burke with the Ducks, he also set the table for Burke's arrival there as Anaheim's general manager. Coates served as interim GM in Anaheim during an ownership transition until Burke was hired for the 2005-06 season.

Coates

"My coming to Toronto is 100 per cent independent of the Anaheim situation. This is what I want to do, it has nothing to do with what someone else wants me to do," said Coates yesterday.

"I'm going to Toronto because I respect Cliff (Fletcher) and what he is doing there. I like the direction the organization is going. I'm excited about the opportunity.

"I think I can help Cliff."

Still, that won't stop the speculation that Toronto continues to build a front office designed to make Burke's eventual arrival here as comfortable as possible. Burke's contract expires at the end of the 2008-09 season. The Leafs have suspended their search for a GM until more candidates become available as "free agents" next spring.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

NHL

Predators lock up young defender

SIGNINGS The Nashville Predators signed defenceman Ryan Suter to a $14-million US, four-year contract yesterday.

Suter had seven goals and set career highs for assists (24) and points (31) this past season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL enters new world without transfer deal

European teams ditch agreement

The NHL's transfer agreement with the International Ice Hockey Federation expired yesterday, ushering in a new era for the movement of players between Europe and North America.

For over a decade, the transfer deal set a framework for how NHL teams could bring players across the Atlantic, with deadlines for transfers, limits on how many players could leave each season, rules for players returning to their IIHF clubs, and a transfer fee for each player.

NHL clubs spent around $11 million US annually to sign between 50 and 60 young players from IIHF-affiliated European leagues in the Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Sweden, Slovakia and Switzerland.

But the system began to crumble when Russia refused to sign a re-worked deal three years ago and fell apart last month when the Czech Republic also balked. They felt the $200,000 transfer fee per player wasn't enough compensation.

Now it will be open season, with European teams receiving no compensation when a player heads to the NHL.

"We're obviously going a different direction than we have in the past," NHL deputy commissioner Bill Daly told The Canadian Press via e-mail. "But our clubs have been prepared for this eventuality for some time."

IIHF president Rene Fasel said the NHL plans to honour European contracts and the league expects European teams do the same with NHL deals. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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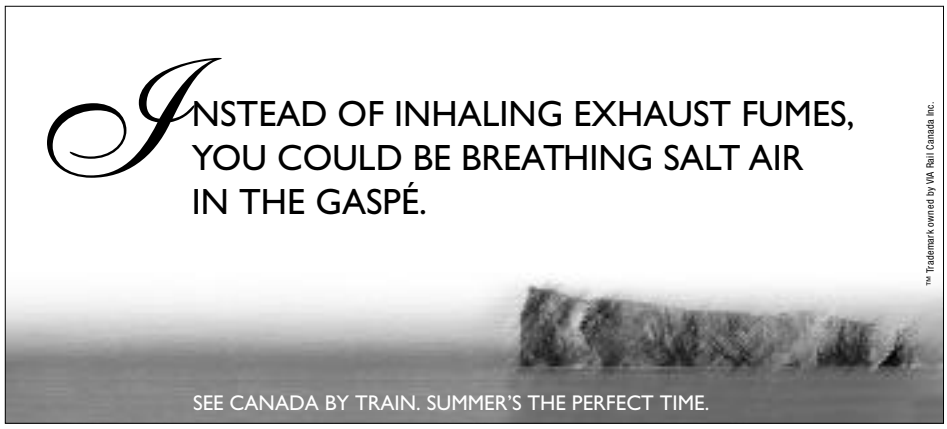

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Jays not set for shakeup

President waiting to see how team fares over next 15

The Blue Jays open a pivotal 15-game stretch in Milwaukee tonight knowing the time has come to save their season, and perhaps their manager, too.

Godfrey

A spirit-breaking stretch of 10 losses in 14 games has shaken a club that has reverted back to its dreadful April ways after a 20-10 May, and patience is running out.

Booing fans were a staple of the 3-6 homestand capped by Sunday's 7-4 loss to the Chicago Cubs and the gap between the Blue Jays and the post-season is widening.

Through 71 games they are 35-36 largely on the back of their pitching staff, and have yet to show enough at the plate on a consistent basis to suggest they are capable of much more.

If they don't bounce back and pile up some wins over the next 15 games — when they should do some damage against Milwaukee, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Atlanta and Seattle — manager John Gibbons could be replaced to shake things up, although team president Paul Godfrey insisted that wasn't the case.

"I am not at that point as of yet," he said in an interview yesterday. "The Red Sox seem to have a bit of a gap between us and them, but all the rest of the teams are fairly well bunched.

"We've got a lot of baseball to play at this time and I'm sitting back, waiting, observing and asking questions."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

»sports In Brief

» **MLB** Yankees ace Chien-Ming Wang will miss at least six weeks after injuring his right foot while running the bases during the weekend. An examination yesterday showed Wang partially tore a tendon and sprained his foot Sunday during New York's 13-0 win at Houston. Wang is 8-2 with a 4.07 ERA.

» **MLB** The Seattle Mariners fired general manager Bill Bavasi yesterday as the team lags with the worst record in baseball (24-45 before last night's games) after starting the season with playoff hopes. Vice-president-/associate GM Lee Pelekoudas will take over in his place.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCOREBOARD

NBA

NBA FINALS

BOSTON VS. L.A. LAKERS

Game 5 — Sunday
L.A. Lakers 103 Boston 98
Game 6 — Tonight
L.A. Lakers at Boston, 9
Game 7 — Thursday
*L.A. Lakers at Boston, 9
(Boston leads series 3-2)
(* – if necessary)

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Boston	44	29	.603	—
Tampa Bay	40	29	.580	2
N.Y. Yankees	37	33	.529	5½
Baltimore	34	34	.500	7½
TORONTO	**35**	**36**	**.493**	**8**

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Chicago Sox	38	31	.551	—
Minnesota	34	36	.486	4½
Cleveland	33	37	.471	5½
Detroit	32	37	.464	6
Kansas City	28	42	.400	10½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Angels	42	28	.600	—
Oakland	38	31	.551	3½
Texas	35	36	.493	7½
Seattle	24	45	.348	17½

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Philadelphia	42	30	.583	—
Florida	37	32	.536	3½
Atlanta	34	36	.486	7
N.Y. Mets	33	35	.485	7
Washington	29	42	.408	12½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Chicago Cubs	45	25	.643	—
St. Louis	42	29	.592	3½
Milwaukee	36	33	.522	8½
Pittsburgh	34	36	.486	11
Houston	33	37	.471	12
Cincinnati	33	38	.465	12½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Arizona	37	33	.529	—
L.A. Dodgers	31	38	.449	5½
San Diego	31	40	.437	6½
San Francisco	30	40	.429	7
Colorado	28	41	.406	8½

LAST NIGHT'S RESULTS

INTERLEAGUE
Philadelphia 8 Boston 2
N.Y. Mets at L.A. Angels
Florida at Seattle
Detroit at San Francisco
NATIONAL LEAGUE
Atlanta at Colorado

TONIGHT'S GAMES

INTERLEAGUE
San Diego at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05
Boston at Philadelphia, 7:05
Houston at Baltimore, 7:05
Chicago Cubs at Tampa Bay, 7:10
TORONTO at Milwaukee, 8:05
Atlanta at Texas, 8:05
Washington at Minnesota, 8:10
Pittsburgh at Chicago W. Sox, 8:11
Kansas City at St. Louis, 8:15
Cleveland at Colorado, 9:05
Oakland at Arizona, 9:40
N.Y. Mets at L.A. Angels, 10:05
Florida at Seattle, 10:10
Detroit at San Francisco, 10:15
NATIONAL LEAGUE
L.A. Dodgers at Cincinnati, 7:10

CFL

PRE-SEASON

THURSDAY'S GAMES
Hamilton at Toronto, 7
Montreal at Winnipeg, 8
Saskatchewan at Edmonton, 9
Calgary at B.C., 10
(End of pre-season)

MLS

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER GAMES

FEATURING TORONTO FC:

SATURDAY'S GAME
Kansas City at **TORONTO**, 3:30

EURO 2008

GROUP A

	W	L	T	GF	GA	PT
X-Portugal	2	1	0	5	3	6
X-Turkey	2	1	0	5	5	6
Switzerland	1	2	0	3	3	3
Czech Rep.	1	2	0	4	6	3

GROUP B

	W	L	T	GF	GA	PT
X-Croatia	3	0	0	4	1	9
X-Germany	2	1	0	4	2	6
Austria	0	2	1	1	3	1
Poland	0	2	1	1	4	1

GROUP C

	W	L	T	GF	GA	PT
X-Netherlands	2	0	0	7	1	6
Romania	0	0	2	1	1	2
France	0	1	1	1	4	1
Italy	0	1	1	1	4	1

GROUP D

	W	L	T	GF	GA	PT
X-Spain	2	0	0	6	2	6
Sweden	1	1	0	3	2	3
Russia	1	1	0	2	4	3
Greece	0	2	0	0	3	0

(X - clinched quarter-final spot)

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Croatia 1 Poland 0
Germany 1 Austria 0

TODAY'S GAMES
Netherlands vs. Romania, 2:45
France vs. Italy, 2:45

LOTTERIES

Ontario Pick 3	8 7 4
Ontario Pick 4	5 0 3 7
Encore	4486489
Daily Keno	1, 2, 6, 8, 12, 18, 19, 22, 30, 32, 38, 42, 44, 54, 58, 59, 64, 65, 66, 67. Results not official

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metro
YOURHealth
Tuesday, June 17, 2008

Run for your life

Many health benefits to using a treadmill or going out for a jog

By **BRIAN TOWIE**
Metro Toronto

What's better, running on a treadmill or going out for a jog?

It's one of the simplest ways to get in shape, but weighing the pros and cons of these two ways of getting on the good foot can be as irritating as shin splints. It all comes down to what you want to accomplish with your run, both professionals and recreational runners agree.

"There are definitely benefits to both," says Mike Bates, managing director of Human Kinetics Canada and presenter at Can-Fit-Pro. "The treadmill can be easier on the joints since most treadmills are going to have less impact on the body and the design of the treadmill itself. It's also a great way to pace yourself since you can set a specific speed and attempt to keep pace. You can also increase the intensity level of the treadmill by increasing the incline."

Running on a treadmill can be easier on the joints, but you might be less bored jogging outdoors instead.

Joe Kenny, head therapist at Brock University's Athletic Therapy Clinic, says the treadmill is especially ideal for beginning runners who want to monitor their target heart rate. The risk of injury is also significantly less, adds Kenny, though people who frequently suffer leg and lower back pains will find a treadmill's hard surface has virtually no give compared to natural terrains.

"It's best to run on the softest surface possible, such as wood chips and grass," said Kenny. "In that sense, I would say going outside is better, but it also depends on your treadmill. Most fitness clubs have pretty high-level ones."

> *« It's not a question of which is better. Everyone should do what they enjoy and what fits their schedule best … Alternating the treadmill and running outside is one way of cross training. »*
>
> *Mike Bates, managing director of Human Kinetics Canada*

The major downsides to treadmills beyond a hard surface, runners say, are boredom and privacy. Recreational runner Patrick Stark says he hits the pavement five days a week, rain or shine, primarily because he enjoys the changing scenery of the outdoors.

"One of the things that I really enjoy about running is being outside. A treadmill makes no sense to me from that perspective," he said. "I run all year in any weather. I also enjoy the solitude of running on my own, something you're not going to get if you're in a gym surrounded by 30 other people on treadmills."

Bates adds balance can be an issue, but it's usually overcome after the first few times a runner uses a treadmill. He also acknowledges the existence of treadmill tedium, but says this is no reason not to get healthy.

"In my experience we have excuses for not doing just about any activity," he said. "At some point we all need to decide what is important to us in life and hopefully we will place our health near the top of that list. Running or walking on a treadmill can be a great way to get started on your fitness program."

Bates says a healthy mix of the two can make for a healthy routine and an effective way to get in shape.

"Any runners I have come across, including myself, prefer to run outdoors," he said.

"It's not a question of which is better. Everyone should do what they enjoy and what fits their schedule the best. We should also attempt to incorporate different types of activities into our exercise program so as not too overstress the body doing one type of activity all the time. Alternating the treadmill and running outside is one way of cross training."

running dos and don'ts

» Avoid eating spicy foods before running as well as the night before your long runs.
» Don't carry loose change. It will annoy those who are running with you.
» Use Vaseline or BodyGlide wherever things rub. They will help prevent blisters and chafing.
» Hydrate. Make it a habit to drink water throughout the day.
» Be careful about running on paths that force you to run consistently on a slant. It's hard on the hips, knees and IT bands.
» Frozen peas make a great ice pack for aches and pains. A thin tea towel wrapped around them makes the cold more comfortable.
» To aid recovery, the most crucial time to eat and drink is in the hour immediately after you run.
» Ice aches and pains immediately.
» Make sure you cut your toenails short enough so they don't jam into your shoes.
» Dress as if it is 10 degrees warmer than the temperature on the thermometer.
» If you are running a very long distance, drink enough electrolytes (such as Gatorade).
» Forgive yourself. Over-ambitious goals usually lead to frustration and giving up on your fitness plan. If you miss a goal or milestone let it go and focus on the next opportunity to get it.
» If you are prone to shin splints and lower leg pain, try running soft trails for your training runs and save the asphalt for race day. — SOURCE: COMPLETERUNNING.COM

After a hard workout, why not pamper yourself? Check out Sea Spa Upper Canada luxury products, including a sea salt soak and replenishing body lotion. Prices range from $10-$25. For more, visit *www.uppercanadasoap.com*.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

trail etiquette 101

Many trails in Ontario exist because private landowners have generously consented to allow hikers to traverse their property. To respect these trail privileges and to minimize our impact on the environment, please observe the following trail etiquette:

» Hike only along marked routes, especially on farmland. Do not take shortcuts.
» Respect the privacy of people living along trails.
» Leave the trails cleaner than you found them, carry out all litter.
» Fires are not permitted along trails, except in approved campsites.
» Leave flowers and plants for others to enjoy.
» Do not damage trees by breaking branches or stripping bark.
» Keep dogs on a leash, especially on or near farmland.
» Leave only your thanks and take nothing but photographs.

NEWS CANADA

Keep your dog on a leash when going hiking on a trail.

Walk on the wild side

No better way to discover GTA's picturesque trails

The sun is shining and the grass is green in Toronto and its surrounding areas, and while we're all familiar with the GTA's much-travelled highways and byways, there's no better time to discover its picturesque trails.

Below are a few local nature walks — some from the city's municipal website (*www.toronto.ca*) — which you can take to get some exercise and fresh air:

» **DON VALLEY HILLS & DALES DISCOVERY WALK:** Starting out at Broadview Station, the route heads through the lower Don Valley past Riverdale Farm, the Bloor Street Viaduct, Todmorden Mills and Necropolis Cemetery — Toronto's oldest burial ground and final resting place of William Lyon Mackenzie, the city's first mayor and major figure of the 1837 Upper Canada Rebellion.

» **EASTERN RAVINE & BEACHES DISCOVERY WALK:** Follow the Glen Stewart Ravine down to the lakeshore and traverse its long scenic boardwalk through Ashbridge's Bay Park. Those with a little bit of money to spend can take a five-minute walk north to Queen Street east of Woodbine to the posh Beach neighbourhood and visit its trendy boutiques, bars and coffee houses.

» **GARRISON CREEK DISCOVERY WALK:** Start at Christie Pits Park, located right outside Christie Station. From there you can explore some of the best in Toronto's vast green spaces in Trinity Bellwoods Park, finishing up at historic Fort York — site of an attack by the newly independent United States during the War of 1812 — on the downtown west side.

You don't have to be an accomplished hiker to explore some of the nature walks the city has to offer.

» **EDWARDS GARDENS:** This botanical garden at Leslie Street and Lawrence Avenue East is the perfect spot for nature walkers looking for love. As you walk past the pristine flower beds and lawns, be on the lookout for happy brides and grooms getting their wedding pictures taken — it's a popular spot for newlyweds.

» **BRUCE TRAIL:** Sure, it's well out of the way, but with 845 kilometres of main trails and 430 km of side trails along the Niagara Escarpment, the Bruce Trail is a hiker's dream. A multitude of routes both challenging and inviting take you through breathtaking valleys, vistas, waterfalls and cliff sides.

» Looking for that perfect trail to hike? Head to *www.ontariotrails.on.ca* and look for a nature walk in your neighbourhood.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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If you're planning on spending some time outside, take along some Outdoor Miracle Salve ($6.99 for 2 oz.) and All-In-One-Wash ($4/99 for 4 fl. oz.). Available at specialty, health, drug and select mass merchandisers. For more, visit *www.burtsbees.com*. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Outdoor boot camps "create a workout that's a constant challenge, so that you don't get bored," says Daniela Nahas, co-owner of Best Body Bootcamp.

Outdoor boot camps a hit

Many forgoing stuffy gym for park

By **BEV SPRITZER**
for Metro Toronto

More and more, it seems, there is much to be said for simply getting outside to get healthy, and with the weather becoming hotter as we speak it turns out the newest trend in gyms is not a gym at all.

The advent of outdoor fitness boot camps is more apparent than ever, and they are popping up all over the city.

Much of the boot camp appeal can surely be attributed to needing nothing more than a mat and a resistance band to get fit, but perhaps even more of the appeal lies in the idea that no longer does working out need to take place inside a stuffy gym with artificial air and lighting, exuberant costs and sketchy contracts.

For Daniela Nahas, co-owner of Best Body Bootcamp (*www.bestbodybootcamp.com*), the goal for Best Body was "to create a workout that's a constant challenge, so that you don't get bored, or plateau, as many people tend to do after getting into too much of a routine."

The program is goal-oriented and involves fitness assessments at the beginning and end of each session to track your progress. A session is comprised of three one-hour classes a week for a month, and costs $225, or $200 if you join with a partner.

It might seem rather costly at first, but if you ask Jessica Miller, an avid boot camp participant, it's totally worth it. "I get to come to High Park and just enjoy nature," she says, referring to just one of many locations available. "It's very centering, and you're in a group, so you can't cheat ... plus the instructor is watching you."

Other boot camps include Booty Camp Fitness (*www.bootycampfitness.com*), exclusively for women, with locations all over the GTA, and Body Buster Fitness (*www.bodybusterfitness.com*).

It's not as though no one's ever had the idea to go for a jog in the park — but it's the specific scheduling, motivational instructors, and ever-changing environment of a boot camp that can make all the difference.

Soccer most popular sport

But fewer kids participating in activities overall

A new study says a smaller percentage of Canadian children participated regularly in organized sports activities in 2005 than in 1992, and the decline was larger for boys.

The Statistics Canada study also found that participation in sports rose with household incomes and the education levels of parents.

It concluded that sports participation rates among children were highest in smaller towns and cities, and that children in Canada's three largest cities were least likely to participate in organized sports on a regular basis.

The study examined participation trends among about two million children aged 5 to 14 between 1992 and 2005.

Soccer was the most frequently reported sport for both boys and girls in 2005, replacing swimming.

In 2005, 51 per cent of children regularly took part in organized sports during the 12 months prior to the survey, down from 57 per cent in 1992.

About half of these active children participated in more than one organized sport. Active children played on average about 2.6 times per week per sport during their sport's season. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Soccer was the most frequently reported sport for both girls and boys in 2005.

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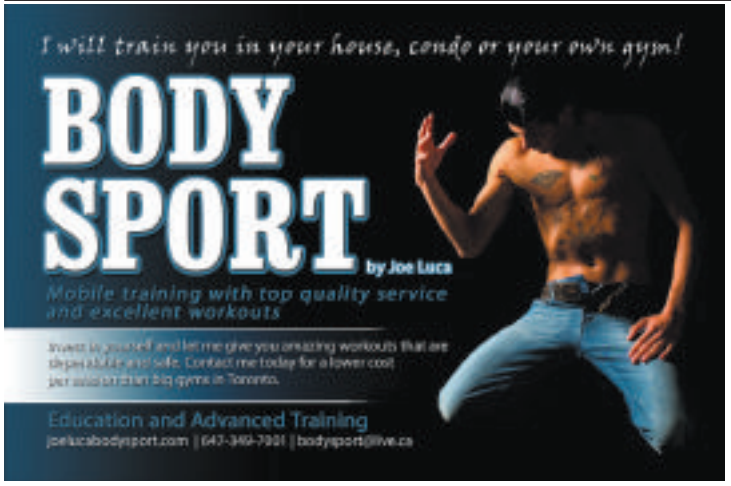
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Fitness fun for all

alive

From the editors of alive magazine; alive.metro@alive.com

Cycling improves cardiovascular fitness and burns several hundred calories per hour.

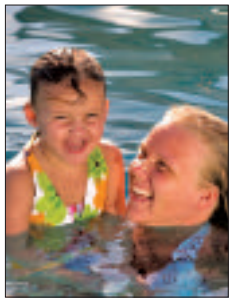
In our busy, hectic lives, both family time and fitness time may get shuffled to the bottom of our to-do lists. But maintaining good health and spending time with our families are essential to stress relief, longevity, and truly enjoying life. What's the solution? Turn family time into family fitness time!

Remember that any activity your family chooses can be an opportunity to build relationships and maintain good health. Work as a team to come up with a list of different fitness activities that accommodate everyone's schedules on a regular basis.

swimming

THERE AREN'T many kids who don't like to swim — in fact, you might find the hard part of taking your kids swimming is getting them out of the pool. Once you're all in the water together, the options for exercise are endless. Each of you can take turns deciding what to do next. Mom might pick running laps in the shallow end, while Dad might choose a treading water contest in the deep end.

An hour of swimming can burn up to 300 calories, gives all the major muscle groups in your body a good workout, and is great exercise for your heart and lungs.



Time spent in the pool or on the swings are great ways to ensure everyone gets some exercise while having fun.

hiking & walking

HOW ABOUT an activity that costs very little and doesn't take specialized skills or equipment? All you need is a good pair of walking shoes for each family member, a backpack or two, water, and some snacks. Most communities offer green space where families can enjoy walks in the woods or other natural terrain.

Walking can burn up to 100 calories per hour and works the cardiovascular system while toning and strengthening the legs.

cycling

IT'S WONDERFUL to see that many communities are now paving over old railway tracks and canal towpaths into traffic-free, family-friendly cycling routes. Older and younger children will love the freedom of being able to bike as fast or slow as they like without worrying about car traffic.

Cycling improves cardiovascular fitness, keeps muscles strong and toned, and burns several hundred calories per hour.

outdoor activities

TIME SPENT in the garden, a game of tag in the backyard, or some fun on the swings and slides at the playground all provide great family quality time while also ensuring everyone gets some exercise.

alive is a natural health and wellness magazine. Visit alive.com for more.

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Drowning in student debt?

There are some ways to survive paying it all back

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As we enter into the summer season, a flock of fresh-faced college and university graduates are embarking on the world — they have big dreams, high spirits, and piles of debt.

Sound familiar? It's easy to feel buried by the money you owe, but digging yourself out of debt is much easier if you have a plan and know your numbers. You managed to pull through stats, survive philosophy and become a legend at your neighbour's hot tub bonanza (OK, that might have been one of the Smart Cookies) but the point is, if you're a graduate of higher education we have faith you can put a plan into action to get rid of that debt and start making the money you deserve.

KNOW WHAT YOU OWE: Knowing how much you owe is the first step in taking control. To track your student loan, log on to the Human Resources Development Canada website (*hrsdc.gc.ca*), which will tell you exactly how much you owe and when you are required to start repayment. Also, if you have a Federal Student Loan, you may be eligible for Debt Reduction in Repayment Reduction (DRR), a debt management measure designed to help you with repayment if you have long-term financial difficulties. DRR lowers the principal amount of your loan and reduces your monthly loan payment to an affordable level based on your family income.

MAKE EXTRA PAYMENTS: In B.C. alone, student loans range from a floating rate of prime plus 2.5 per cent or a fixed rate at prime plus 5 per cent. To avoid paying your student loan for the next 15 years, try making extra payments every year toward that loan. This doesn't have to be a huge chunk of money, but even if you start putting away an extra $100-$200 each month, you will have $1,220-$2,400 to put toward your student loan, decreasing the amount of years left to contribute. Treat your student loan like any other type of debt you may have. The faster you pay it down, the faster you can free up your money for more fun and lucrative things.

Keeping track of how much you owe is the first step in taking control.

CONTACT A FINANCIAL PLANNER: You are not alone in figuring out how to pay down your student loan. There are a number of options on how to best pay it down and a financial planner can assist you in figuring out these options. Whether it's lowering the interest rate on your student loan or consolidating your student loan with other debt you may have to a lower interest rate loan, it's worth meeting with an expert to find out your best options. One of the best ways to find a financial planner is to ask family, friends and colleagues for referrals.

We love hearing from you, if you have questions for the Smart Cookies or want to share your confessions, please e-mail *smartcookies@metronews.ca*.

Tune in Wednesday night at 9 p.m. EST/PST on the W Network and be sure to visit *smartcookies.com* for more tips.

Advertising Feature

EXPERIENCE *Korean Sparkling Culture*

Korea Sparkling

With more than 5,000 exciting years of history to draw upon, it is no surprise that Korea has such a magnificent wealth of culture to offer visitors.

Korea's amazing past fuels the vibrant passion of its people to the tune of more than 400 festivals and events every single year celebrating cuisine, arts and crafts from across the country. With a strong base of national government support, many of Korea's largest festivals are world-renowned for their outstanding cultural value and ability to entertainment discerning travellers.

The Andong Mask Dance Festival, held from Sept. 26 – Oct. 5, offers a unique opportunity to experience one of Korea's cultural touchstones, highlighted by beautiful costumes and dances.

The city of Andong is Korea's centre of Confucian culture and folk traditions and one of the few remaining examples of the Joseon Dynasty. The festival is a truly international event which offers a chance for visitors to witness and even participate in traditional mask dance while interacting with residents who still live in this traditional village.

The Gangjin Celadon Cultural Festival, held from Aug. 9 – Aug. 17, is an outstanding celebration of traditional celadon pottery making and admission is completely free. Visitors can make their own celadon pottery while learning about the art's history by visiting the region's highly-regarded Celadon Museum. Tea houses and restaurants are in amply supply, ready to soothe the stomachs and souls of travellers.

A boisterous celebration of Buddha's birthday, the Lotus Lantern Festival is a large and colourful international extravaganza encompassing parades, lantern-making workshops and exciting street festivals. The enormous festival usually takes over the entire centre of downtown Seoul and draws revellers from around the world. Reserve your travel plans early to make sure you'll join in the fun!

For true connoisseurs of design and crafted arts, the Cheongju International Craft Biennale 2009 will exhibit the greatest achievements in craft culture and design from around the world. Cheongju is noted as the place where major artisans from the worldwide craft industry showcase their work for the public and reveal the newest trends for the coming year. With a multitude of exhibitions, workshops and demonstrations of craft artisanship, the Cheongju Internation Craft Biennale 2009, open from September to November, is an event not to be missed by lovers of culturally important arts and crafts, particularly as Canada will be the featured guest country.

Korea's vibrant and joyful culture is given life by more than 5,000 years of rich history and the kind, playful spirit of its people – make sure you experience it.

Question: **What event in Korea allows you to experience Korean arts and crafts but also those from around the world in 2009?**

A1: Lotus Lantern Festival 2009
A2: Boryeong Mud Festival
A3: Cheongju International Craft Biennale 2009
A4: Geumsan Insam (Ginseng) Festival

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- ROBERT AND KIM, OAKVILLE

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Statistics have shown the average Canadian male lives to 78 years old and woman to 81. I would not pretend to guess why this is so. Government CPP and OAS will not fund your retirement. Individuals with no private pension will have to save more. Surveys have shown the average Canadian would be content with about $3,300 per month of retirement income. In today's dollars, an individual may need approximately $1 million to service 20 years of retirement.

Surveys have shown the average Canadian would be content with about $3,300 of retirement income per month.

The dollar amount can be scary and discouraging to many young people. Therefore, set small objectives. For example, young adults can start by deducting $150 each paycheque directly into an RRSP. Each annual salary increase dedicate 25 per cent more to your RRSP and so on.

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Henry Choo Chong, CGA, can be reached at: 416-590-1728 Ext.304. E-mail Money Matters: choochonghcga@yahoo.ca.

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NEWS CANADA

workology

Tax Freedom Day, the day Canadians have paid off the total tax bill imposed on them by government and can finally start working for themselves, arrived on Saturday, June 14, four days earlier than in 2007, the Fraser Institute announced. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Little Geeks lends a hand

Charitable group doles out desktop computers for kids

By **RAFAEL BRUSILOW**
for Metro Toronto

RAFAEL BRUSILOW/FOR METRO TORONTO

Michael Bishansky, 15, the youngest member of the Little Geeks board of directors, teaches three-year-old Vernon, left, and seven-year old Javon, right, Koduah how to use their new home computer.

Thanks to charitable donations and a lot of hard work, 100 of Toronto's neediest "little geeks" are now able to have their own home computer.

Little Geeks was started by television host Andy Walker and co-founder Lisa Shishis several years ago to help put computers into the homes of kids who need them most. Just last December, the non-profit organization finally was granted charitable status by the province, making possible a giveaway of 100 full computer systems (about 140 total since the charity was conceived) to 100 kids from Toronto at a donation event in the city's downtown in mid-June.

As children arrived periodically with their families to pick up their new home computer systems — which included Internet safety training and free dial-up Internet accounts for them to connect to the web — co-founder Andy Walker, known for his advice segments on the syndicated television show Call for Help, underlined just how important computers and access to the Internet are in today's world.

"Fundamentally, I believe that an Internet-capable computer is a basic human right. After you've taken care of water, shelter and food, you need access to technology and the Internet. There's no such thing as a future if you're not connected to the Net," Walker said.

Shishis agreed, citing her own son's learning disability and how computers have helped him overcome it as proof that use of computers is crucial to the development of children.

"It's a right, not a privilege, to have a computer," Shishis said.

Money for the computers came from many sources, including a $50,000 donation from Best Buy.

Shishis admits getting Internet connections for the computers was the most challenging part, as few corporate sponsors seemed to understand the importance of the net connections or want to pony up the money for them.

Grade 12 student Samantha Usher, 17, said her computer will let her finish her work from home instead of having to line up at the library and she expressed thanks to the Little Geeks crew.

"It means a lot because it's really generous. These people are really good people for doing this," Usher said.

Khadijah Patel, 13, said her new computer will make a big impact in her life.

"It's been kind of hard keeping up with homework, this will help a lot during school," she said.

Yvonne Boateng, at the event to pick up a computer for her boyfriend's three young sons, said the machine will give the boys a chance to better themselves while likely keeping them out of trouble.

"It's good for them — it keeps them busy and it's an investment in their future," Boateng said.

safety

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on the »
move with enza
by enza supermodel
enza.supermodel@metronews.ca

name » *Mark Disero*

occupation » *Rose proprietor*

age » *42*

location » *Yonge & Wellesley*

MARK DISERO moved from bartending to botanicals. Disero, realizing a niche market for Canadian heritage roses, opened his own business, Langford Rose Gardens. Today he specializes in 150 different rose cultivars. When he's not selling to the gardening public, his other specialty is working as chair, organizing the first all-Canadian Rose Show at the Royal Botanical Gardens (*canadianrosesociety.org*).

Photo by Enza Supermodel

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Many of its residents commute to work in Toronto or other municipalities in Durham Region. Ajax also offers its residents five local high schools and several elementary schools by the Durham District School Board and the Durham Catholic District School Board, with two of the high schools being Catholic and the other three public.

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Couch-surfing soars

LUCAS OLENIUK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

New evidence shows children and teens spend an average of 42 hours a week – three times longer than recommended guidelines – staring at a screen.

Kids spend up to six hours per day staring at screens

Canadian kids are continuing to swap their running shoes for cartoons, computers and high-octane video games, pushing sedentary behaviour to an all-time high across the country.

New evidence shows children and teens spend an average of 42 hours a week – three times longer than recommended guidelines – staring at a screen. And experts have given this couch-surfing existence a failing grade in an annual report card on physical activity.

"Everything is okay in moderation, but we seem to have lost balance when it comes to the screen time and physical activity pendulum," said Dr. Mark Tremblay, director of healthy active living and obesity research at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario.

This is the fourth straight year Canada has scored an overall grade of D on the Active Healthy Kids Canada report card. But it is the first time an F has been handed out for the screen-time subcategory.

Children between the ages of 10 and 16 are spending an average of six hours a day in front of a television or computer screen, according to the report card. Current guidelines recommend a total of two hours of leisure screen time a day.

Preschool-aged children are watching up to two hours of television a day, which far exceeds their daily screen-time guideline of 30 minutes.

"This is leisure time so the explanation that kids don't have time to be active is not one, at least from this evidence, that seems valid," said Tremblay, who is also chief scientific officer of Active Healthy Kids Canada.

The report card found 90 per cent of children and teens don't meet Canada's recommendations for 90 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity every day, which also prompted a grade of F in that sub-category.

Kids being less active is one of the reasons rates of childhood obesity are soaring in Canada. Rates have tripled in the last 20 years and now one in four children between the ages of 2 and 17 are overweight or obese.

Toronto's Clark family is an exception to the research. Almost all their spare moments are taken up by being active together, whether it's skiing on winter weekends, golfing in the summer or playing baseball during the week. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

caught by net

» Japanese youngsters are getting so addicted to Internet-linking cellphones that the government is starting a program warning parents and schools to limit their use among children. ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Restroom rows

HINESIGHT
ANNE HINES

This morning I've come face to face with one of the unhappy truths of life.

You can't blame the opposite sex for everything. Most of the time, we would really like to do this. Women would like to blame men for everything from world wars to water retention. Men would like to blame women for the existence of such things as hygiene and greeting cards.

What I wanted to blame men for today was a comment by my friend, Rob. Rob said, and it pains me to share this, he said, "I don't see why we need more public washrooms."

We all know that small boys grow up believing there's an invisible men's room sign on every shrub and back alley. Mothers of small girls on the other hand see the end of diaper wearing as the beginning of "now we have to find a washroom every 20 minutes." We also know that the length of time between when a toddler lisps, "I have t'gooooo," and when they do is 12.68 seconds. I shed most of my postpartum weight chasing down grocery clerks to beg for "the key" or sprinting through department stores schlepping a 20-pound child, trying to make it to the women's room, always conveniently located at the far end of the upper floor in the very back section.

For adult women, washroom access isn't much easier. At a recent concert, the line to use the women's room was out the door, down the aisle, onto the stage. The men's room appeared to have no takers at all. I said there ought to be another women's room. Rob suggested that perhaps men are just more efficient.

That doesn't mean he's insensitive. It did mean he had to walk home.

It's a fact of being human that if we don't need something, we don't always accept that anyone else needs it either. This applies to everything from religion to Botox. When it comes to washrooms, all women want is time, a reasonable level of cleanliness and a sense that this is intimate space. I don't know why men don't get this. We've been saying the same about sex for ages.

In the end, I think the real challenge is to stop thinking we all need the same things and start listening to what we tell each other we need. I don't know if this will get us more washrooms. I do know it would be a relief.

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of nonfiction humour.

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entertainment

Heroes actor Christopher Eccleston will team up with Hilary Swank, left, in new movie Amelia, which tells the story of aviation pioneer Amelia Earhart. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

The sound of alienation

The Awkward Stage has message we can all relate to

By **ROB McMAHON**
for Metro Toronto

Contemporary pop culture is packed with conceptions of awkwardness: the Office's satire, the romance of emo or the aw-shucks of John Hughes films.

Shane Nelken — singer-songwriter in Vancouver's The Awkward Stage — loves them all.

"Awkwardness is always there. No matter how confidant people seem, there's some scenario that can make their confidence totally end," said Nelken, who is joined on the new album by bandmates Tygh Runyan, Tony Koelwyn and Chris Mitchell. "Too often youth is sentimentalized in songs and pop culture as a glorious time, but I think it was a horrible time."

MARK MARYANOVICH PHOTO

Slimming Mirrors, Flattering Lights, The Awkward Stage's new album, is now in stores.

Nelken's perspective on awkwardness envelops his work. His debut album's cover featured a headgear-sporting Nelken perched beside a blow-up doll. Anime Eyes, a track off Slimming Mirrors, Flattering Lights, references Otaku, a subculture of disaffected Japanese youth that science fiction author William Gibson described as "pathological-techno-fetishist-with-social-deficit" and Nelken as are "disconnected from reality and instead their life is all virtual — that's their world."

Despite generally sounding happy, the new record touches on a consistent theme of alienation and disconnection. For example, the title refers to the effect a strong set has on a photo shoot — a situation also brought up in the song Only Good Days Caught on Camera. Nelken explained that the idea behind such images was that managing appearances often doesn't address root problems, instead just making things look OK.

"I didn't set out to make a concept album, but most of the songs, if not all of them, deal with things being not quite what they seem," he said. "[They all cover] some form of delusion."

Philosophy aside, in a musical sense Nelken draws inspiration from pop outsiders like Nick Lowe. While such artists stuck to the genre's focus on melody, they also wrote lyrics and music that subverted predictable formats. At the same time, Nelken is conscious of the danger of sounding too clever.

"Nick Lowe (shows that) just because something has a pop melody doesn't mean it has to be devoid of substance," he said. "There's so much punk rock energy running throughout every one of (Lowe's) songs that make it heavier than some punk in a lot of ways."

on tour

» The Awkward Stage plays Toronto's Rancho Relaxo on June 26.

Davis touts character's feminism

Sex And The City interpreted many ways, actress says

By **NINA ETTRUP**
Metro World News

She is somewhat offended when asked whether her fictional alter ego is not a bit anti-feminist. Because if there's anything that Sex And The City is not, it is antifeminist, actress Kristin Davis says. Davis is best known for her role as the conservative and romantic Charlotte York on the long-running TV series and in its recent big screen return.

"It's interesting to hear people's perception of and reaction to what we do, and there are a lot of ways of interpreting that, but we would never want to be anti-feminist. We're all feminists — I want to be super clear about that."

Nonetheless, she admits that she was happy when she read the script and discovered that Charlotte is still married to her anti-hero, Harry, the bald lawyer.

"He's amazing. He's not at all the one she expected to be with, but it works. She was completely wrong about what would make her happy," says Davis, 43, who is still single. "There are men like Harry out there — of course there are. I've met them. It's just not always the ones I date."

And even though her own life does not at all resemble Charlotte's nuclear family with husband and child, the actress identifies a lot with her character. "I'm not interested in playing the trampy type," she says, before correcting herself and saying promiscuous, not trampy.

GETTY IMAGES PHOTO

Kristin Davis

Star Trek star

Takei to pick up marriage licence

PEOPLE Former Star Trek regular George Takei will become one of the first gay people to receive a marriage licence when the historic documents are handed out tomorrow across California, *imdb.com* reports.

The actor announced his plans to wed longtime partner Brad Altman the day after new legislation overturned a ban on same-sex marriages in the state last month. He'll be among hundreds of gays and lesbians who will mark the first day of the ruling by accepting a marriage licence.

celeb parenting

Book from Spears' mom this fall

Spears

PEOPLE Before the news of 17-year-old Jamie Lynn Spears' pregnancy broke, her mom was in the process of shopping around a parenting book, *InTouchWeekly.com* reports.

Lynne Spears has taken the project off hold and is said to be releasing the memoir this fall. The book, Through the Storm: A Real Story of Fame and Family in a Tabloid World, will focus on what it was like to raise two famous children. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Rome churches bar Da Vinci filming

Diocese won't allow crew inside two key locations

Rome's diocese said yesterday it has barred the producers of Angels & Demons from filming in two churches for the prequel to The Da Vinci Code, the popular book and film that angered many Catholic leaders.

Producers of the film, directed by Ron Howard and starring Tom Hanks, were turned down because the movie "does not conform to our views," said Monsignor Marco Fibbi, a spokesman for the diocese.

The crew had asked to film in the churches of Santa Maria del Popolo and Santa Maria della Vittoria, two architectural jewels in the heart of Rome that include paintings by Caravaggio, sculptures by Bernini and a chapel designed by Raphael.

Permission was denied in 2007, but the issue surfaced only now that filming is ongoing in Rome, Fibbi said. The Sony-produced film was put on hold during the Writers Guild Of America strike that ended in February and is now scheduled for release in May 2009.

RICCARDO DE LUCA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Actors Tom Hanks and Ayelet Zurer are shown during the shooting of the movie Angels & Demons in downtown Rome recently.

"It's a film that treats religious issues in a way that contrasts with common religious sentiment," Fibbi said. "We would be helping them create a work that might well be beautiful but that does not conform to our views."

Fibbi acknowledged the controversy over writer Dan Brown's The Da Vinci Code and its blockbuster movie version had weighed on the decision.

The story drew anger and prompted calls for boycotts by church leaders worldwide with the idea that Jesus married and fathered children and by depicting the conservative Catholic movement, Opus Dei, as a murderous cult.

"This is a prequel to The Da Vinci Code and it's clear that the theme is similar," Fibbi said. He added the ban would not stop the crew from filming the exterior of the churches.

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Michael Moore to publish his 'Election Guide'

Watch out, John McCain. You, too, Barack Obama. Michael Moore is coming out with a new book.

Mike's Election Guide, a manual of mockery for the 2008 presidential election, will be published Aug. 19 by Grand Central Publishing. Promotional material says the book is "timed to coincide with the national political conventions — and to capitalize on massive campaign coverage."

Moore

Moore, 54, won an Academy Award for best documentary with his 2002 gun-control film Bowling For Columbine. Ahead of 2004's U.S. presidential election, the director-activist released Fahrenheit 9/11, his top-grossing film condemning the war in Iraq. Moore's previous book — 2003's Dude, Where's My Country? — sold more than one million copies.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spears not at fault in foot injury case

'Victim' to blame for car incident, say prosecutors

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

Britney Spears

A paparazzo who pressed charges against Britney Spears after her car ran over his foot was himself to blame for any injury, prosecutors said in refusing to pursue the case.

After reviewing police records and a videotape of the incident last year, deputy district attorney Joseph D. Shidler wrote that the "only way the victim's foot could have been where the video indicates it to be was by the victim placing it in that location."

The photographer, who was not identified in the report, filed a criminal complaint against Spears in early May, nearly six months after the alleged incident.

A copy of the police complaint was not immediately available yesterday, but it sought a felony charge of failing to stop after an accident involving an injury.

The Los Angeles County district attorney's office reviewed a videotape and photos of the incident, which don't show the photographer being hit.

The report also describes a chaotic scene surrounding Spears, with photographers on all sides of her car and "a lot of noise and confusion."

The report describes Spears as "driving at an extremely slow rate of speed and in a straight path."

The 26-year-old pop star has had her share of trouble behind the wheel, including a highly publicized incident in 2006 where she was photographed driving with her son on her lap.

A misdemeanour hit-and-run charge stemming from a 2007 parking lot crash was dismissed after she settled with the car's owner.

In October, she pleaded not guilty to a misdemeanour charge of driving without a valid licence and earlier this year was involved in a minor fender-bender on a Los Angeles freeway.

Spears told police she didn't remember the incident and prosecutors believed her.

"There was much commotion and noise at the time and there is no proof that the suspect was aware of what happened."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

tony award winners

Following are selected winners from the 62nd annual Tony Awards on Sunday night. The awards celebrate Broadway's best:

» Musical: In The Heights.
» Play (and playwrights): August: Osage County (Tracy Letts).
» Revival — Musical: South Pacific.
» Revival — Play: Boeing-Boeing.
» Actor — Musical: Paulo Szot, South Pacific.
» Actress — Musical: Patti LuPone, Gypsy.
» Actor — Play: Mark Rylance, Boeing-Boeing.
» Actress — Play: Deanna Dunagan, August: Osage County.
» Book — Musical: Passing Strange (Stew).
» Original Score: In The Heights (Music & Lyrics: Lin-Manuel Miranda).
» Direction — Musical: Bartlett Sher, South Pacific.
» Direction — Play: Anna D. Shapiro, August: Osage County.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JOAN MARCUS

Lin-Manuel Miranda during a performance of In The Heights, winner of the Tony Award for best musical.

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Actress Eva Mendes, right, is in talks to star opposite Nicolas Cage in Werner Herzog's remake of the 1992 film Bad Lieutenant.

EW.COM

Refreshing but not exactly joyous

Control/Joy Division

Stars: Ian Curtis
Distributor: Alliance DVD

DVD REVIEWS
RICK McGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

ALLIANCE IS packaging these two films together, but one day they'll probably be available in a single, Criterion-like edition, to provide an almost definitive take on Joy Division, the band, and Ian Curtis, their tragic lead singer, as they were regarded just over 25 years after the band, and the man, ceased to exist.

In any case, if you want one, you'll probably want both.

Photographer Anton Corbijn focuses on the personal side of Curtis' tragedy by basing the movie on the book written by his widow after his death. It's a refreshing shift in perspective from the one that prevailed among his fans for so many years after Curtis hung himself on the eve of the band's first U.S. tour in 1980 — one that made Curtis the ultimate punk nihilist, taking "we mean it, maaan!" to the logical conclusion for the author of some of the most despairing lyrics ever set to music.

Corbijn's movie shows that a youthful, impulsive marriage, an affair, and the side effects of epilepsy medication were the more concrete, banal sources of Curtis' emotional turmoil, and the director dramatizes is all in an austere, black-and-white style that evokes British kitchen sink drama of the '60s. Grant Gee's Joy Division broadens the picture wider, putting Curtis and his band in the context of northern England in the '70s, using a combination of archival footage and interviews with Curtis' bandmates and contemporaries and Annik Honore, his girlfriend.

The documentary does a great job evoking not just the particular political entropy in England at the time, but the tired, shopworn, pre-apocalyptic feel of the late '70s in general, which was such fertile social ground for the bleakness that inspired Curtis, both creatively and personally.

More painfully, it details how everyone around him completely misread the obvious signals he was given, either by misinterpreting it as mere art, or through stoic northern male emotional indifference.

Fool's Gold

Stars: Kate Hudson
Distributor: Warner Bros. DVD
14A

THE ONLY THING there's too little of in Fool's Gold is wardrobe for Matthew McConaughey, who spends most of this busy but curiously flat romantic adventure film shirtless in the Caribbean sun. Actually, it's really the Australian sun, just one of several curious substitutes in a film where an Englishman plays an American, a Canadian plays an Englishman, and a Scotsman plays a Ukrainian.

McConaughey and Kate Hudson play a just-divorced couple brought back together when he accidentally finds the location of a fabled shipwreck, which brings together a leathery treasure hunter, a rich Englishman, a murderous rapper and his posse in a hunt to find the treasure. Too much plot and too many characters make Fool's Gold feel cluttered but not busy — a hectic but unrewarding story that feels too much like an overprogrammed package vacation.

more online

» For reviews of Californication: The First Season, Be Kind Rewind and Popeye The Sailor Volume 2, please visit *metronews.ca*

Fearing technology? Think about the children

IDIOT BOX
RICK McGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

SO DEMANDING: During the first few months of their baby's life, parents are often grateful for those moments, late at night, when they can unwind in front of the tube, their baby asleep on their shoulder, but as soon as it's obvious that junior has noticed the TV's magic diorama, the anxiety begins, prompted by studies that inform us that just three hours of TV watching a week in the first two years of a child's life will irrevocably damage their chances of getting a scholarship to Yale law school. These studies get trotted out on cue in a piece by Joanna Weiss in Sunday's Boston Globe, but only after the writer gets anxious over the much harder-to-quantify effect that DVRs and video-on-demand will have on vulnerable young minds.

Weiss begins by waxing nostalgic for the TV of her youth, a life lived "beholden to the television schedule," where she had to watch what was on, only when it was on, and had to suffer through Charlie's Angels reruns after school, because she probably didn't have a few hundred cable channels to choose from or a hard drive full of TiVo'd shows. What Weiss seems to have forgotten is that this Edenic world flat out sucked — I know because I was there, too. Given the choice between trawling up and down the vast expanse of digital cable until I find something to kill an hour or two — usually the Military Channel or Alton Brown touring diners and truck stops on Food — and a quick circuit of less than a dozen channels that inevitably leads to The Love Boat, I'll take the former.

Weiss recounts the awkward conversation she has with her 4-year-old whenever they ask to see something that isn't either on the DVR's hard drive or available on demand.

I've had that conversation, which Weiss doesn't seem to be able to see as an expression of a child's concept of the eternal now. Time and all its existential implications will impress itself soon enough on her child's mind.

Weiss worries, nonetheless that her child is "missing something if she isn't forced to wait for precisely what she wants." I sometimes think that this inevitable parental recourse to wailing "What about the children?" has been as effective a form of non-pharmaceutical birth control for the childless as kids-eat-for-free nights at restaurants. Weiss' worries that being able to pause a show or choose what you want to watch when you want is only valid if you think that bookmarks and libraries have made reading an activity full of potentially damaging side effects.

And if you're so worried, maybe now's the time to go all Amish and kick the TV to the curb — if you dare.

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The case for arranged marriage

DATING JUNGLE
KASIA IGLINSKI
datingjungle@metronews.ca

As little girls, many of us dreamed of our future wedding day, holding dandelions in place of a bouquet as we walked down the imaginary aisle. We had every last detail worked out — or at least every detail a seven-year-old can think of — yet nowhere in this fantasy is the part where our parents or community members decided on our groom. In fact, most of us would prefer to leave our love lives in the hands of chance encounters in grocery stores than allow our parents to do our choosing for us.

But Reva Seth, author of First Comes Marriage, Modern Relationship Advice From The Wisdom Of Arranged Marriages, argues there is a lot we can learn from arranged marriages.

Born in Toronto to South Asian parents who had an arranged marriage, Seth interviewed more than 300 women in arranged marriages in what started out as a curiosity on the subject, but later led to research for her book.

The biggest lesson she learned: Haphazard dating can set our dating lives into a tizzy.

"Arranged marriages can prevent unwanted relationships," says Seth, although she is quick to add she doesn't advocate them.

However, in an arranged marriage, people lay out exactly what they are looking for instead of adopting a date-whoever-comes-our-way attitude many of us have to dating, she says.

Her solution — we should tackle dating with a plan. A list of "marriage musts." Those core qualities we simply cannot live without.

She did — five months and seven dates later, she was engaged. Four years later, she is still happily married and has a son.

She argues matchmaking services and even several online dating websites take a similar approach.

One item that doesn't make Seth's list of marriage musts is sexual attraction. That, she believes, is something we can create over time. Yet superficial though it may seem, I believe it's that sexual attraction that helps us handle the bumps on our dating journey. It allows us to muster the courage to ask for a phone number or even a second date. It fills us with that curiosity to find out more about the person and perhaps move us closer to some of those "marriage musts" we're meant to be searching for in a happy relationship.

Armed with a notepad and a curious mind, Kasia Iglinski's always on the prowl for a good story and a good date.

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Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
265	353	2	TVO	Parks	Canadian Rivrs	The Agenda With Steve Paikin		Fields of Gold		Design e2	Design e2	Agenda-Paikin
211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Deal or No Deal (iTV) (N)		In Plain Sight "In Plain Sight" (N)			'Til Death	News (N)
215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere Il	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
210	302	6	CBC	Coronation St.	Just-Gags	Rick Mercer	22 Minutes	Ron James: West Coast Wild		CBC News: The National		The Hour
214	344	7	CITY	Friends	Hollywood	Friends	Friends	Hell's Kitchen (N)		Entourage	Role	News (N)
212	313	8	CTV	eTalk	Jeopardy! (N)	The Moment of Truth (N)		Canadian Idol (N)		Law & Order: SVU		News (N)
218	345	11	CH	The Insider (N)	E! News	AFI's 10 Top 10 The institute counts down 10 films in each of 10 genres. (N)						News (N)
137	763	13	TFO	Panorama	Visages	Des yeux pour parler		La Cérémonie (1995, Drame) Isabelle Huppert.				Super plantes
-	-	14	-	Law & Order: SVU		News (N)		News (N)		King	King	Cold Case
213	326	15	SUN	Scrubs	George Lopez	Deadbolt ★★ (1992, Suspense) Justine Bateman.				To Serve and Protect		Grill Rm.
-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	AFI's 10 Top 10 The institute counts down 10 films in each of 10 genres. (N)						News (N)
-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Deal or No Deal (iTV) (N)		America's Got Talent (Season Premiere) (N)				News
-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Jimmy Kimmel	NBA Count	NBA Basketball Finals Game 6 -- Los Angeles Lakers at Boston Celtics.				
219	346	20	ACH-B	Wheel-Fortune	Degrassi: Next	Monk		America's Got Talent (Season Premiere) (N)				News (N)
-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy (N)	Two/Half Men	The Moment of Truth (N)		Hell's Kitchen (N)		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	Keeping Up	Nova (HDTV) (DVS)		Frontline "Young and Restless in China" (N) (DVS)				Business Rpt.
297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Beauty and the Geek		Reaper "Magic" (HDTV)		CW11 News at Ten		Two/Half Men
296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dr. Phil		News (N)	Phantom	Frasier	Frasier	Cheers
298	653	332	TLA	Reba	Reba	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Family Guy	Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Beauty, Geek
502	390	26	NW	News (N)	Newman	The Hour		CBC News: The National		Between the Laughter		National
500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		CNN Election Center		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow & Company		Fast Money		Asia Squawk Box		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money
405	417	22	net	Simply	UFC: Access	MLB Baseball Toronto Blue Jays at Milwaukee Brewers. From Miller Park in Milwaukee.						Sportsnet Con.
400	400	30	TSN	SportsCentre	Euro Today (N)	NBA Pregame	NBA Count	NBA Basketball Finals Game 6 -- Los Angeles Lakers at Boston Celtics.				
411	457	58	OLN	Exploration	Videos	Survivorman		Odyssey	Surf Patrol	Adventures	Strand-Peters	Pilot Guides
417	406	81	SC	Pinks (HDTV)	Pass Time	Am. Thunder	Am. Thunder	Street Tuner	Low Life	Super Bikes!	Super Bikes!	Pinks (HDTV)
551	542	25	YTV	Malcolm-Mid.	Prank Patrol	Fries That?	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Falcon Beach		Mystery Hnt.
554	544	45	TEL	George-Jungle	Scooby-Doo	Scooby-Doo	6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	Superman II (1980, Science Fiction)		
556	540	51	FAM	That's-Raven	Smart Guy	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
602	567	27	W	Will & Grace	Friends	Maxed Out	Style by Jury	Kim	Style by Jury	Good Naked	Good Naked	Maxed Out
570	580	29	MM	So You Think You Can Dance				So You Think You Can Dance		MuchNewsWk	Buck Naked	Video on Trial
615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami "Tinder Box"		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 "Silenced"		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami
700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Carabinieri		Imperium		The Sopranos "D-Girl" (SS)		Raymond
571	581	36	MMM	mmmtop	Uncovered	Listed		Fabulous Life Of...		Hogan Knows	Hogan Knows	Listed
575	583	38	CMT	Chevy Cross Canada		Beyond Chance		Reba	Hope & Faith	Home Improve.	Roseanne	CMT30
616	521	39	SHO	ReGenesis (HDTV)		Blue Murder "Payback"		Trailer Park	Kenny-Spenny	CSI: NY "Silent Night"		House
620	523	40	BVO	Bazart	Bravo!Videos	The Singing Detective ★★ (2003, Drama), Mel Gibson.				Chantal Kreviazuk Live		Law & Order
601	562	41	SLC	Women on Top	Til Debt-Part	Nearly Dead	Matchmaker	Superstar Hair Challenge (N)		Plastic-Perfect	Rocker Moms	Nearly Dead
522	506	43	HIS	NCIS "The Weak Link"		Digging for the Truth		Finding the Fallen		NCIS "The Weak Link"		Crime Stories
625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Laughs	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	MADtv		Daily Show
600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Buy Me	Designer Guys	Design Inc.	Colin & Justin's Home Heist		Green Force	Outside	Colin & Justin
294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	MLB Baseball Atlanta Braves at Texas Rangers. From Rangers Ballpark in Arlington, Texas.						Seinfeld
576	582	49	BET	106 & Park	NBA Moments	How to Be a Player ★ (1997, Comedy) Bill Bellamy.				Top 25 Fabulous Freaks		Hell Date
627	528	50	SPC	Stargate SG-1 Robots.		Star Trek: Voyager		Blood Ties (DVS)		Battlestar Galactica		Stargate SG-1
581	566	52	MTV	MTV e2	Cribs	4REAL	MTV e2	Shot at Love-Tila Tequila		Shot at Love-Tila Tequila		MTV Live
618	524	54	TROP	News Show	News Show	ET Canada	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier	Family Guy
603	561	56	FOOD	Boy Grill	Licence to Grill	Restaurant Makeover		Chef School	At the Table	Feasting on Asphalt		Restaurant
261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		Eyes Down	On the Buses	Quantum Leap		Jozi-H "Crush"		Mysterious
621	527	63	STR	Look-A-Like	Hollywood	TMZ (N)	eTalk	Scoring With the Stars (N)		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		eTalk
553	546	65	TRE	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Nght Grdn	Wiggle-Learn	Franklin	Little Bear	Miss Spider	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears
115	711	101	TVA	Les Anges de la rénovation		Km/h (SC)	Caméra café	La Grande Évasion (HDTV)		TVA 22 heures	Sucré-salé	Vice caché
126	730	102	RDI	Dominique Poirier en direct		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		Le Club des ex	Le National	Le Téléjournal
526	507	249	CLT	The West Wing		Killer Next Door		Psychic Detect	Ext. Evidence	Traders "Middle Ground"		The West Wing
300	601	301	M1	(7:15) The Accidental Witness (2006, Suspense)				Children of Men ★★★★ (2006, Science Fiction)				Urban Justice
305	612	306	PIX	Diamonds-For	(7:20) Blindside ★★ (1987, Drama)			The Nutty Professor ★★★ (1963, Comedy) Jerry Lewis.				Habitat (1997)

critics'corner

Style by Jury: Where Are They Now
An easy way to come up with a few hours worth of television, "Where are they now?" specials are always of interest to viewers. In this case, host Bruce Turner of "Style by Jury" visits past participants to see if they kept up with fashion and are happier with their lives. Special jury members — unnamed at this writing — are chosen to see the before-and-after looks. 8:30 PM on W

AFI's 10 Top 10
How does "Shrek" stack up against "Pinocchio"? "The original "Scarface" against "The Departed"? "Unforgiven" against "The Searchers"? This year, instead of a 100-best list, the American Film Institute presents a series of top-10 lists, counting down the best films in 10 different genres, including sci-fi, animation, Westerns, courtroom dramas, mysteries and epics. As always, lots of stars weigh in with commentary. 8 PM on CBS CH

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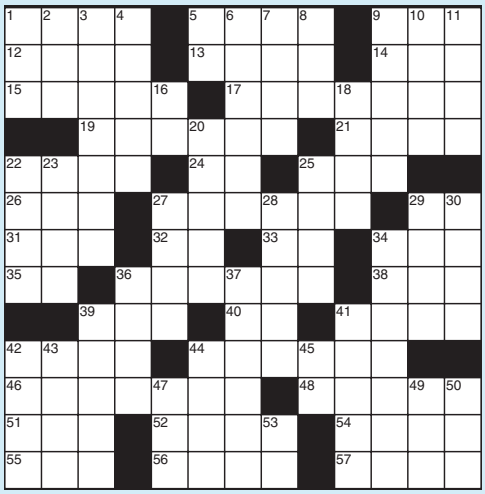

down

1 Kind of jacket
2 40-cup brewer
3 Squirms
4 Touches
5 Squawkbox, briefly
6 Trouble brewing
7 Meadow bellows
8 Literary compilation
9 Aleut carving
10 General vicinity
11 Social underachiever
16 Peru's cont.
18 Keep away from
20 Fix software
22 Level
23 Too suave
25 Very, to Yves
27 Comic-strip dog
28 Roused up
29 Turns right
30 Byron's works
34 Mining company employee
36 Podium feature
37 Later! (2 wds.)
39 Faint
41 Dory
42 VHS predecessor
43 Old-time oath
44 Any
45 Near or beside
47 Beaver project
49 Absorbed, as costs
50 Dundee refusal
53 Midwest st.

across

1 Breathe hard
5 Cougar
9 Caramel-colored
12 Old barge canal
13 Before long
14 Iron source
15 High mountains
17 Oven pan
19 Clearings
21 Part of a pin
22 Ally opposites
24 Element no. 99
25 — a ride
26 Started a fire
27 Get
29 Make tracks
31 Gore and Capone
32 Fond — Lac
33 Not they
34 Lettuce layer
35 Cobb of baseball
36 Filet —
38 "Crooklyn" director
39 Compete for
40 Not hurt
41 Mouth off
42 Prominent nose
44 Rib-eyes
46 Incited (2 wds.)
48 Atlas or Prometheus
51 Sweater letter
52 In a frenzy
54 Greek-salad cheese
55 Lime cooler
56 Gulls' cries
57 Unobstructed

previous answer

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HOROSCOPE

ARIES | March 21-April 20
You're suffering from someone's fussiness. Use discretion when judging a pushy person. Someone is struggling to break a bad habit.

TAURUS | April 21-May 21
A disagreeable co-worker is trying to fool you. Someone is stuck between sadness and crisis. A man comments on your generosity.

GEMINI | May 22-June 21
A friend is causing emotional turmoil. Somebody's tenderness will astonish you. Shake up the status quo as soon as you can.

CANCER | June 22-July 22
Refuse to play with a workplace bully. Swallowing your pride isn't much fun. Expect little in terms of romance.

LEO | July 23-Aug. 23
Avoiding issues will cause dismay. An official will help out with documents. You're not to blame for a weird situation.

VIRGO | Aug. 24-Sept. 22
There will be no trouble in work-related surprises. Take messages correctly or there will be consequences. Act sensibly in a personal issue.

LIBRA | Sep. 23-Oct. 23
Too much sensitivity about principles will get you fired. Something in the mail gives you joy. People will want you to do their stuff.

SCORPIO | Oct. 24- Nov. 22
A financial institution won't back up its advertising. Intestinal distress results in a medical visit. Romance is the last thing on your mind.

SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 23- Dec. 21
An admirer wants a chance at partnership. A clingy person wants more than you do. Be patient with weak people.

CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 20
Loss is possible due to forgetfulness. Demands won't put love in someone's heart. Be careful about chatting with strangers.

AQUARIUS | Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Love grows with a cheerful person. Not all choices are worthwhile. You will be amazed by your sense of efficiency.

PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20
Good news comes in regard to getting credit. Speak up for an unfairly accused person. A sudden change works out.

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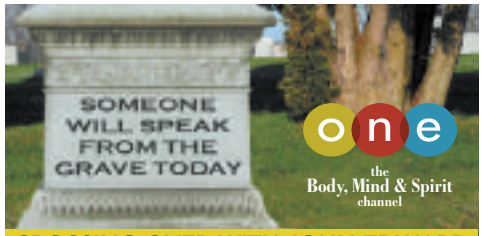

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2		6				1		
	8	5		6	9	3		
	3		8		1		4	
4	6		7				9	
			2	3	4			
	2				5		3	8
	1		9		3		5	
		9	1	7		8	6	
		2				9		3

instructions

The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

solve time

Under 13 minutes	Genius
13-17 minutes	Scholar
17-21	Smart
21-25	Pretty good
More than 25	Keep practising

previous answer

4	5	3	6	2	1	7	8	9
7	6	1	8	4	9	2	3	5
2	8	9	5	3	7	1	4	6
3	9	4	1	8	2	6	5	7
1	7	6	9	5	4	3	2	8
5	2	8	7	6	3	9	1	4
9	4	5	3	1	6	8	7	2
8	1	7	2	9	5	4	6	3
6	3	2	4	7	8	5	9	1

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Showers.	Partly clear.	Showers.	Variable.	Showers.
17°	9°	18°/ 10°	20°/ 11°	23°/ 11°

Temperature
Normals
High: 23.7°
Low: 12.5°

Records
High: 33.9°/1957
Low: 2.3°/1980

Sunrise: 5:36 a.m.
Sunset: 9:02 p.m.
Moonset: 4:13 a.m.
Moonrise: 8:43 p.m.

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celebritybuzz

Baby in black

Gwen Stefani and husband Gavin Rossdale are painting their new baby nursery black, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Rossdale, who already has a two-year-old son Kingston with Stefani, has revealed the couple are shunning traditional pastel shades in favour of a gothic theme.

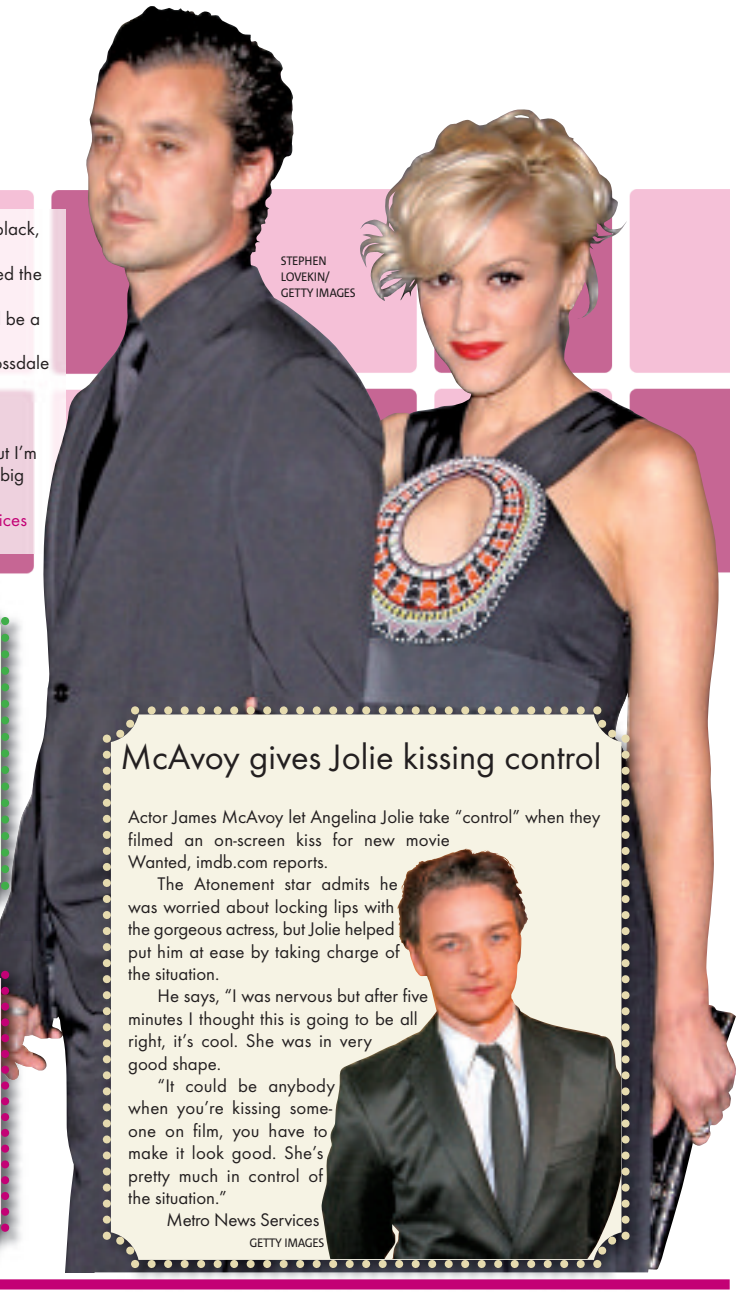
The rocker told America's OK! magazine: "We are going to put him in a black room. It'll be a goth baby so it doesn't matter if it is a boy or a girl."

Despite being tempted, the couple still haven't found out the sex of their unborn baby. Rossdale said: "We don't know if it's a boy or a girl yet."

The British musician has also revealed he and Stefani are having difficulty explaining to Kingston that he will soon have a younger brother or sister.

He said in an interview with website bild.de: "We try to explain the pregnancy to him, but I'm not sure if he understands what's going on. I think the birth of the new baby is going to be a big shock for Kingston!"

Metro News Services



STEPHEN LOVEKIN/ GETTY IMAGES

Rhys enjoys being single again

Actor Rhys Ifans is in great spirits following his split with ex-fiance Sienna Miller, according to his co-star Talulah Riley. According to imdb.com, the St. Trinians star, who has been filming new movie The Boat That Rocked with Ifans, insists the Welshman is enjoying being single again – despite recent tabloid speculation he has been seen weeping on the film's set. Riley says, "I don't know what's been in the papers but he was laughing and joking all the time on set. He was just one of the lads, you know. I didn't notice him down or anything."

The couple allegedly parted ways earlier this month, with Miller reportedly dumping Ifans by phone. Metro News Services

GETTY IMAGES

Beckinsale wants derriere film double

GETTY IMAGES

Kate Beckinsale has reportedly demanded a body double for her latest film because she feels self-conscious about the size of her bottom, imdb.com reports. The star, 34, allegedly refused to bare her derriere while shooting a shower scene in new movie Whiteout – forcing producers to hire a US $2,000-a-day model to stand in for the star. A source tells Britain's The Mail On Sunday, "The script called for her character to be filmed nude in a shower, focusing in on her bottom and thighs. Kate insisted on a double being hired. She was quite open on the set about not liking her body and said she particularly loathed her bottom and was not comfortable baring it." Metro News Services

McAvoy gives Jolie kissing control

Actor James McAvoy let Angelina Jolie take "control" when they filmed an on-screen kiss for new movie Wanted, imdb.com reports.

The Atonement star admits he was worried about locking lips with the gorgeous actress, but Jolie helped put him at ease by taking charge of the situation.

He says, "I was nervous but after five minutes I thought this is going to be all right, it's cool. She was in very good shape.

"It could be anybody when you're kissing someone on film, you have to make it look good. She's pretty much in control of the situation."

Metro News Services

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Paltrow rules out singing

Gwyneth Paltrow has ruled out ever having a music career, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The Iron Man actress, who showed off her vocal talents in the movie Duets – says despite being married to Coldplay front man Chris Martin, she will never try her luck as a singer. She said: "I have been approached to do records and stuff like that, which is very flattering. But I don't really see myself as the type of person who could be put in a studio and be given a song that someone else wrote – with lyrics that someone else wrote – and then get all made up and have my hair blowing with a fan for a music video. That's just not my style – I'm not into the packaged prefab music thing. I don't really like Top 40 music – I don't listen to it. First of all, I would only do it if I was going to be writing my own songs and I don't even know if I could write a song because I had never tried." Metro News Services

GETTY IMAGES

Hugh like Austin Powers: Hurley

Elizabeth Hurley is convinced she would be a mother of five if she had continued her romance with Hugh Grant because the pair met when they were in their early 20s, imdb.com reports.

Hurley, 43, and Grant, 47, dated for 13 years before parting ways in 2000 – but the pair remain close friends and confidants to this day.

And the pals even joke they would now be parents to an enormous brood if they hadn't chosen to end their relationship.

Hurley tells the July issue of Harper's Bazaar magazine, "Sometimes Hugh and I can get morbid and say we could have had five children by now because we were together since we were 21.

"There was never a time when either of us wanted it."

But the Bedazzled star, who has been married to Indian businessman Arun Nayar for a year, insists she would like to see Grant finally settle down.

She adds: "Women flock to Hugh. He's like Austin Powers. Everyone worships him."

Metro News Services

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Dion sues her architect

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Celine Dion says her architect doesn't know much about geometry and wants big bucks from him because of it, tmz.com reports. Dion hired Florida architect Randall Stofft in 2005 to build her a $3-million US Jupiter Island pad – complete with an octagonal living room. Stofft had a different vision, and Dion says he refused to build the house the way she wanted. Now the house still isn't finished, according to the Palm Beach Post, and Dion has filed suit asking for $250,000 in damages.

The architect had no immediate comment.

Metro News Services

Family, friends keep Lewis grounded

British pop star Leona Lewis is neither a diva nor a train wreck and she owes it all to her family and friends, people.com reports.

"I have the advantage of a great support structure," the singer tells Parade magazine in its June 15 issue.

"I get honest opinions from my family and friends. They aren't always telling me what I want to hear, but the truth helps keep my head straight."

It's the kind of straight talk that's kept Lewis grounded and contributed to her squeaky clean image – unlike that of fellow British singer Amy Winehouse, who is in constant rotation in the tabloids for her behaviour.

"Amy is an amazing artist and so talented," Lewis says when asked how a young performer manages to avoid the kind of train wreck Winehouse seems to have become. "A performer's privacy is taken away. The media are always there. You can't make your mistakes in private."

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